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afterwards extended to
4 volumes, after the
~~success~~ the earlier volumes.

1760







CHRYSALIS

OR THE

Adventures of a Guinea,

Which is related

Virtues of several failing Scents,

WITH

Correct and impartial Accounts of the
most Noted Persons in every Part of
Life, whose Histories passed through

AMERICA, ENGLAND, HOLLAND,
GERMANY, and PORTUGAL.

By JOHN HENRY, Esq.
Author of the History of the
Life of King Charles the Second.

Printed by J. HENRY, at the
Sign of the Anchor, in St. Dun-
stons Church-yard.

MDCCLXXII.

LONDON.

Printed by J. HENRY, at the
Sign of the Anchor, in St. Dun-
stons Church-yard.

CHRISTIAN

OR THE

Adventures of a Guinea

Whence it is extracted

Views of several striking Scenery

WITH

Curious and interesting Anecdotes of the
most Noble Persons in every Part of
the World, whose Hands it passed through

12

AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND, HOLLAND,
GERMANY, AND PORTUGAL

Printed by J. B. M. de Hondt, in the
Street of the Holy Spirit, in the
City of Amsterdam, in the Year
1712.

By an ADEPT

By an ADEPT

VOL. I.

LONDON

Printed for T. BARNES, in the Strand,
near St. Dunstons Church

MDCCLXXII

CHRYSAL;

OR THE

Adventures of a Guinea.

Charles Johnstone

Wherein are exhibited

VIEWS of several striking Scenes,

WITH

Curious and interesting ANECDOTES of the
most Noted Persons in every Rank of
Life, whose Hands it passed through

I N

AMERICA, ENGLAND, HOLLAND,
GERMANY, and PORTUGAL.

— Hold the Mirror up to Nature,

To shew Vice its own Image, Virtue her own Likeness,

And the very Age and Body of the Times

His Form and Pressure,

SHAKESPEAR.

Qui capit, ille facit.

By an ADEPT.

Charles Johnstone

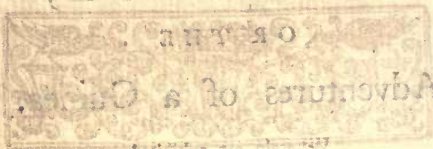
VOL. I.

LONDON:

Printed for T. BECKET, at Tully's Head, near
Surry Street, in the Strand.

MDCCLX.

CHRYSALIS



Views of forty interesting Scenery

WITH

Curious and interesting Accounts of the
most noted Persons in every Part of
the World, which is the subject of the
History.

AMERICAN, ENGLISH, HOLLAND,
GERMAN, AND PORTUGAL.

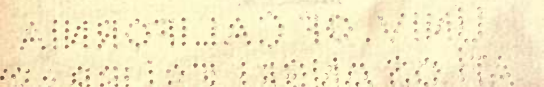
— that the history of a nation
is the history of its people
and the history of the world.

The Publisher of this
work is informed that the
author has been informed that the

time devoted to the care of his
family is so small that he is
obliged to be absent

from the country of his birth
and to the country of his
adoption.

Printed at the Office of the
Printer, in the City of New York,
at the Sign of the Anchor, in
Broad Street, near the
Market.



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1760
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TO THE
Right Honourable
WILLIAM PITT, Esq;
&c. &c. &c.

SIR,

THE Publisher of these papers is sensible, that the time devoted to the care of nations, is too valuable to be spared to the perusal of them, yet he should think himself guilty

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Baker

of a breach of the general gratitude, which, at this time, swells every honest heart, in *Britain*, if he omitted to lay at your feet, a work, in which every occasion of displaying the blessings of a good administration appears to have been sought with pleasure, and dwelt upon with judgment.

The genius of my author was evidently so averse to adulation, that it would be doing him, the severest injustice, to join any thing to his work, which even envy could possibly pervert to such a motive, by insinuating, that the pictures he draws, in many places, of national good conduct, and the happy state of it, are a panegyrick on present,

not

DEDICATION. v

not a representation of imaginary scenes.

A sense of this precludes me from the pleasure of illustrating his remarks with particular instances; but in return for that painful self-denial, I must be indulged in a profession of the joy, with which I (as must every *Briton* whose heart feels for his country) congratulate myself, on my happy fate, in living under an administration, in which the flights of imagination of a visionary recluse, dead so many years ago, may be taken for a relation of the real events of the present times.

Here my address to MR. PITT must stop! But nothing can ever stop my prayers to Heaven for

vi *DEDICATION.*

the preservation and happiness of a life, on whose labours, the welfare, not only of this mighty empire, but also of the greater part of *Europe*, do now so eminently depend.

A Briton.



PREFACE



P R E F A C E,

By the PUBLISHER.

TO acquit myself of the suspicion of presuming to aim at particular characters, in the following Work, should any fancied likeness be thought to direct an application; as well as to do justice to the real author of it, I think it my duty to make known the manner by which it happened to come into my hands.

As I was walking one evening, last summer, along *White-Chapel*, I was obliged to take shelter from a shower of rain, in a cottage near the Turnpike. The family were at Breakfast, at their tea, and as the rain continued, I had leisure to reflect on the advantages of commerce, which thus in a manner joins the opposite extremities of the earth, by bringing their products together: at the same time, that the variety in the equipage of the tea-table, or indeed stool, on which *there was nothing of a piece*, suggested a just ridicule on the vanity of luxury.

This last reflection was extended to all the pursuits of man, on the sight of a piece of written paper, that served instead of a plate, to hold their butter,—‘Who knows (thought I) but the writer of this, bestowed time and care upon it, and promised himself both profit and fame, in reward of his labour?’

This

This thought prompted curiosity to look at the paper, which, by this time, was scraped quite clean. I therefore, after a few words of conversation, to introduce my request, desired leave to see it, which was readily granted, when I was surprized to find my conjectures, as I imagined, confirmed, by its appearing to be part of some regular work.

Curiosity had now a stronger motive, than idle gratification! I asked where they had got that paper; and on their telling me, at the chandler's shop next door, though this discouraged me a good deal, I resolved to pursue my enquiry, and went to the shop, as if for some snuff, which, as I expected, was given me on a piece of the same paper.

The rain still giving me a pretence for delaying there, I entered into discourse with the woman, and among other idle questions, asked her where she usually got paper to wrap her wares in, to which she answered, 'Some-

‘ times from the public offices, and
 ‘ sometimes from the booksellers and
 ‘ printers; and when she was disap-
 ‘ pointed at those places, she was forced
 ‘ to buy brown paper, which was much
 ‘ dearer; though at present, she made
 ‘ use of some old stuff, that had lain a
 ‘ great while, lumbering her garret, ha-
 ‘ ving belonged to a lodger of her mo-
 ‘ ther’s, who died many years ago.’

I then changed the discourse, for fear she should perceive my design; but presently seeing her going to tear more, for somebody else that came in, I could not forbear any longer, but offered her brown paper for all the written paper she had, *as that was most proper for some work I designed*, which she readily agreed to, and sold me her whole stock for eighteen-pence.

This adventure put an end to my walk, so I took the first coach that went by, and hurried home to examine my purchase, which I found to consist of

a number of fragments, upon various subjects, whether originally left unfinished, or torn thus in the chandler's shop, it was impossible to say: and among the rest, the following work, which seemed to have undergone a different, though not much better fate, being blotted in many places, often paragraphs, and sometimes whole pages being erased; and what was worst, this havock was made in the most curious and entertaining part of the whole, the *philosophy of the nature and agency of spirits.*

The oddity of this collection made me resolve to try if I could learn any thing of the author, from the woman of the shop, where I had made my purchase; accordingly I called upon her, one evening, as if merely by accident, and sending for a pint of wine, to set her tongue a going, I no sooner hinted my desire, than she directly gave me the following account, which I shall repeat as nearly as possible, in her own words,

words, shortening it only of expletive exclamations and repetitions.

‘ My father (said she) dying young,
 ‘ and leaving his family but poorly, my
 ‘ mother took this shop to help her to
 ‘ bring up three children, of whom I,
 ‘ the eldest, was but five years old. The
 ‘ times being hard, she was obliged to
 ‘ make every honest shift, and there-
 ‘ fore took in lodgers, and among the
 ‘ rest, an elderly man who rented the
 ‘ garret to sleep in, and a little turret in
 ‘ the garden, which he fitted up for
 ‘ himself for a work-shop: but what
 ‘ business he followed she never knew,
 ‘ as he let no body see him at work;
 ‘ nor did she trouble herself to enquire,
 ‘ as he always paid her punctually: but
 ‘ she imagined he was a smith of some
 ‘ sort, from the quantities of charcoal
 ‘ he burned, and the constant blowing
 ‘ of his bellows.

‘ In this place he spent all his time,
 ‘ often not quitting it for whole days
 ‘ and

‘ and nights together, till hunger has
‘ forced him to crawl like a starved rat,
‘ out of his hole, to get a bit of vic-
‘ tuals.

‘ At first, my mother was uneasy at
‘ this, and imagining he must be *out of*
‘ *his mind*, or troubled in conscience,
‘ she spoke about him to a worthy gen-
‘ tleman, a clergyman, that lived in
‘ the neighbourhood; but he coming
‘ to see him at a time when he had a
‘ clean shirt on, and had eat his victuals
‘ and slept regularly for some time be-
‘ fore, his discourse was so sensible and
‘ pleasant, that the doctor could not
‘ help telling him the cause of his visit,
‘ as a joke, at my mother, to whom he
‘ said, when he was going away, that
‘ so far from being mad, he believed
‘ her lodger was the best scholar in the
‘ whole parish.

‘ My mother’s good-nature had like
‘ to have lost her her lodger, for as soon
‘ as the doctor was gone, he gave her
‘ warning

‘ warning, but upon her promising never to be guilty of the like indiscretion again, nor to trouble herself any farther about him, than just to give him what he should call for, he consented to stay.

‘ From that time he lived among us, as unnoticed as he could desire, following his business without disturbance from any one, nor appearing to give himself the least trouble about that of any other person living, except it was me, whom he taught to read, and said he would make his heir. An unhappy heirship, I am sure for me; for it hindered my marrying *Jack Twist* the rope-maker, who is now the toppingist man in all *Radcliff-highway*, and then offered to take me in my shift.

‘ But there’s no help for that now! Luck is all! To be sure we thought he must be some extraordinary man; for he never wanted money, and then

‘ we

‘ we used to hear him talking to him-
‘ self sometimes, as if all the world was
‘ his own, of *building colleges, and*
‘ *churches, and houses, and altering St.*
‘ *Paul’s*, and I do not know what great
‘ things; and one day in particular, I
‘ remember he said, before us all, that
‘ before seven years, he would hire an
‘ army, that should drive the *pope* and
‘ the *devil* (Lord bless us) out of *Rome*;
‘ for to be sure, he would talk before
‘ us, as if we could not hear him, as
‘ we would also do any thing before
‘ him, as freely, as if he was a cat or a
‘ dog! Well as I was saying, it was
‘ no wonder, to be sure, that such ig-
‘ norant, poor folks, as we, should
‘ think much of him, especially after
‘ what the doctor said, and accordingly
‘ build great hopes, upon his promises.

‘ He went on thus for near 20 years,
‘ no soul ever coming near him, nor he
‘ going out, above once or twice in a
‘ year, and then not staying above an
‘ hour or two at a time.

At

At length his health began to break
very much, which made my mother
often speak to him, not to work so
hard, for he had been with us so
long, and was so quiet, and paid so
honestly, that we all loved him, as if
he was our father. But her advice
was all to no purpose; he still went
on, bidding her not trouble herself,
nor be afraid about him. But this
did not satisfy her; and one day,
when he had been locked up, from
the morning before, without having
any victuals, or going to bed, she re-
solved to break through his orders,
and call him to dinner.

When she came to the turret, which
he called his *laboratory*, she tapped
gently at the door, but receiving no
answer, nor hearing any noise within,
she was so frightened, that she called
me, to fetch the kitchen poker, with
which we made a shift to force it
open, when we found the poor man
stretched

‘ stretched at his length, upon the floor
 ‘ to all appearance dead.

‘ This shocked us greatly; but we did
 ‘ not alarm the neighbours, as we ima-
 ‘ gined there were things of value
 ‘ there, that might be displaced or
 ‘ taken away in the confusion: we
 ‘ therefore raised him up ourselves, and
 ‘ after a little while, perceiving signs
 ‘ of life, carried him in, and laid him
 ‘ in our own bed, and pouring some
 ‘ drops into his mouth and nose, at
 ‘ length brought him to himself; when
 ‘ his first care was to enquire for the
 ‘ key of the turret, and whether any
 ‘ one else had been there, or any thing
 ‘ in it stirred: our answers satisfying
 ‘ him, he seemed quite easy, and in a
 ‘ little time recovered, to all appear-
 ‘ ance, as well as ever.

‘ From this time, he changed his
 ‘ way of life a good deal; and though
 ‘ he was much in the turret, which
 ‘ we observed he ever after called his
 ‘ *Study,*

‘ *study*, and not his *laboratory*, he never
‘ sat up whole nights in it, as before,
‘ nor bought any more charcoal, nor
‘ even oil for his lamp, but went to
‘ bed orderly when we did.

‘ But this change came too late,
‘ for about six months after, we found
‘ him one morning dead in his bed;
‘ though he had been as cheery in the
‘ evening, as he had for a long time
‘ before.

‘ This was a great surprize and con-
‘ cern to us! But what avails grief:
‘ we must all die, and he was a very
‘ old man. As soon as we were cer-
‘ tain that he was dead, the first thing
‘ my mother and I did, was to go to
‘ the turret, impatient enough to take
‘ possession of our heirship; where,
‘ Lord help our poor heads! what did
‘ we find? only a few great old books,
‘ and those papers you got; the very
‘ bellows, and tools, and pots that we
‘ saw there before, being all gone, and
‘ no

‘ no more sign of a work-shop to be
‘ seen, than if it was not the same
‘ place, we had been in, but six months
‘ before. What he could have done
‘ with his things, we could not ima-
‘ gine, for we never observed him to
‘ carry them out, so that we concluded
‘ he must have burned them.

‘ This was a fore disappointment to
‘ me, not to mention the loss to my
‘ mother, to whom he owed a quar-
‘ ter’s rent, beside an account of near
‘ twenty shillings in the shop; and se-
‘ ven shillings and two-pence half-pen-
‘ ny, was all the money in his pocket,
‘ nor did we ever find one penny more
‘ after him, though we searched close
‘ enough! — Well! patience is a re-
‘ medy for all things, but death! We
‘ were forced to submit; thought I
‘ cannot help grieving, when I think
‘ of it, to this day, especially when I
‘ see *Peg Sprout*, the green-woman’s
‘ daughter, from *Wapping*, that *Jack*
‘ *Twist* married out of despair, when I

‘ re-

' refused him, ride by, in her chaise,
 ' like a lady; and it is now 30 years
 ' ago!—No! let me see! it will be ex-
 ' actly 29 years come next Michael-
 ' mas; I am sure I have reason to re-
 ' member it well, for my poor mother
 ' took it so to heart, that she never
 ' held up her head after, till it finished
 ' her, in about nine years; though I
 ' cannot say, but something else might
 ' have helped, for she took cruelly to
 ' drinking drams, though as she began
 ' it, to comfort her, for this misfor-
 ' tune, it was all owing to that; and
 ' poor sister Bett, too'—

I was obliged to interrupt her here,
 by asking her, what kind of a person
 he was, or she would have gone on to
 give me the history of her whole family,
 to which she answered thus, ' What
 ' sort of a man? I'll tell you then:
 ' for I think I see him before my eyes,
 ' this minute. He was a tall thin man,
 ' above six foot high, and no thicker
 ' than a watchman's staff, as I may say;
 ' then

then his constant leaning over his
 work, bent his long back, like a bow,
 especially as he had no belly to keep
 it up, for he lived almost upon no-
 thing, so that when he walked, the
 length of his legs, and his great stoop
 made him look as if he had no body
 at all. As for his face, it was as long
 as my arm, and not broader than the
 edge of my hand; his eyes were sunk
 half a foot into his head, and always
 covered with spectacles: his nose was
 hooked over his mouth, as his chin
 turned up an handful to meet that:
 and the constant toasting, over the
 charcoal, had shriveled up his skin
 so, that his whole face looked, as if it
 was covered with scorched parchment.
 —His dress (for I never knew him
 have but one) was a black coat, with
 little buttons all over it; which being
 made for him, while he stood upright,
 now that he stooped so much, hung
 down to his ankles: a broad leather
 belt, that kept his coat about him; a
 cloak, which he hung upon his shoul-
 ders,

' ders, but was so worn, that it shewed
 ' his skeleton through every part of it ;
 ' and an old high-crowned hat. In
 ' short he had so little of the appearance
 ' of a creature of this world, in his
 ' looks or dress, that whenever he went
 ' out, in the day time, the mob all
 ' gathered about him, and hooted him
 ' home, just as the little birds do an
 ' owl ; and some of our wicked neigh-
 ' bours, when any accident has hap-
 ' pened, have often threatened to take
 ' him up, and *dip* him for a witch,
 ' though I am persuaded, that was no-
 ' thing but wickedness and malice, and
 ' that he knew no more harm than a
 ' baby.'

My curiosity being thus satisfied as to
 the author, there was but one thing
 more, that I desired to know, and that
 was, how those papers came to have so
 many blots made in them, which by
 the difference of the ink, I could see
 was done long since the first writing,
 to which she answered, that some time
 after

after the old man's death, her mother let his apartment to one that called himself a clergyman, and was a great scholar, and used to make almanacks, and other books; that he had looked over those papers, and, she believed, taken out such as he liked, and done what he pleased with the rest; for they set no regard on them; and particularly she remembered to have heard him say, that he would make something of one of them; but she believed, he found it would not do, for he soon after left their house, and joining with those methodists, that were just then come up, went away with them, preaching about the country.

I thought it but reasonable to reward the good woman's expence of breath, with half a crown, and so took my leave, though with a secret resolution, to give her half the profit, if there arises any, from the sale of the books; not thinking that such a purchase, as I had made from an

ig-

ignorant woman, could give me a just title to the whole *heirship*, as she called it, that had cost her so dear, as the loss of her old sweet-heart *Jack Twist*.

This good-woman's account explained to me, in some measure, the nature of this work, from the circumstances of the author, who, I could see, had been a schemer, who had wasted his whole fortune, in the search, after the philosopher's stone, and having his eyes at length opened to his folly, though too late to remedy it, yet was able to divert the grief of his disappointment, by writing these papers, in ridicule of such notions, and from the sale of which he might also expect some relief to his wants.

How just this expectation might have been then, it is now very hard to say, in their present mutilated condition; or what could have moved any man, to make such havoc in them; without it was, that the orthodoxy of
the

the clergyman was offended at the author's notions, which he wanted judgment to see, were only a delicate ridicule, of those wild, idle dreams, which some men, who call themselves philosophers, have thought proper gravely to obtrude upon the world, as learning and knowledge.

But whatever the motive was, the loss is now irreparable, and has reduced the work to the appearance of a novel or romance, almost the whole philosophical part having been erased; for as to the personal application of any thing in it, to the present times, the least attention to this account of the authour, will shew the absurdity and injustice of such an attempt; as it was wrote so long ago, and by a person so little acquainted with the world, that all the stories in it must necessarily be the mere creatures of imagination.

For the manner in which they are published, I shall only say, that it is
b strictly

strictly agreeable to the faith of the text; not one, of the many alterations and interpolations, which were in another hand, being given; but wherever I could not clearly make out the very words of the author, I honestly omitted the whole, not thinking it allowable or just, to palm my own words or sentiments upon the world, on the credit of another.

How scrupulous I have been, in this point, will appear to any one, who shall take the pains of consulting the original manuscript, which shall be deposited in the publick library of one of the universities, as soon as the work is printed. The only liberty I have taken, being in a few notes in the margin.

CHRYSAL:



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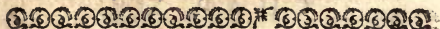
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C H R Y S A L :



CHRYSAL:

OR THE


ADVENTURES

OF A

GUINEA.

CHAP. I.

The Apparition of CHRYSAL to an ADEPT, in the very moment of projection. His account of himself, and the cause of his appearing to the author.

 ON a day, when long and strict abstinence had purified my body from every *terrene* incumbrance, and intense contemplation wound up my mind to an enthusiasm fit for *empyrean* conversation, as I stood with my eyes riveted on the *obstetrick* flame, in strong expectation of the birth of the *mystick child*, the first-born of the morning, ready

B

to

to seize the happy moment, *when the earth sufficiently impregnated with the water, ascended white and splendid, that I might compound the pure elements, before they fly from the fire, and so perfect the great work*; my eyes began to dazzle, and the power of imagination overwhelmed my soul.—I saw a blue effulgence break from the liquid gold, and play about the genial vase! — I was astonished! I thought it the *substantial form of the son of the sun*! I thought the happy moment was come, when *the rose of the east should bloom in the desert*, and mine the favoured hand to cultivate its growth! I indulged the pleasing thought! I melted in the virtuous joy! and in obedience to the divine impulse, I kneeled to receive the reward of all my labours, *the radiant crown of wisdom and glory*, from the hand of nature, with every sense and faculty suspended, for fear of interrupting the mysterious process.

As my soul hung in this extasy, the flame which wrapped the *sacred birth in the bed of purification*, arose with a glory too strong for mortal sense, and filled the room. My senses sunk under the pressure, and I was dissolved into a trance, when a voice, celestially harmonious, encouraged me to raise my eyes, and I beheld *the body of the effulgence condense into an incorporeal substance*
in

Adventures of a GUINEA.

in the form of a spirit, while a placid shade softened the fierceness of the radiance, and made it tolerable to human sense.

An holy horror curdled all my blood; but the melody of the same voice, which had before emboldened me to look up, reassured my fainting heart with these words;

“ Son of pains and votary of science! thy
“ unwearied perseverance has prevailed,
“ and I am sent to crown thee with the vir-
“ gin rose! I am CHRYSAL, the spirit of
“ that incorruptible mass now glowing in
“ that vase before thee, who in reward of
“ thy noble constancy in offering this thy
“ last mite, on the shrine of knowledge,
“ am come to reveal the mysteries of nature
“ to thee, and satisfy that raging thirst for
“ wisdom, which has so long excruciated
“ thy soul, and thus emaciated thy body!
“ And that thou mayest the better compre-
“ hend the greatness of this honour vouch-
“ safed unto thee, I shall trace the opera-
“ tions of nature through her most secret
“ recesses, and illustrate the truth of what I
“ say, by a detail of the various incidents
“ of my being, in my present state, to
“ prepare thee for the reception and proper
“ use of that *grand secret*, which I shall af-
“ terwards communicate!

4 C H R Y S A L : *Or the*

“ I can see your thoughts; and will
 “ answer every doubt which may arise in
 “ your mind at the wonders of my rela-
 “ tion, without the interruption of your
 “ inquiries, as *awful silence is the essence of*
 “ *my converse*, the least breach of which
 “ puts an end to it for ever! listen then in
 “ mute attention, nor let a breath disturb
 “ the mystick tale!” —

The works of nature are infinitely various, and her methods of operation inscrutable to the curiosity of that vain intruder Reason, which has of late presumed to pry into her ways, and to doubt, if not deny, the reality of all effects, which her short-sighted eye cannot trace to their causes! a presumption that has justly shortened the line of human knowledge, and condensed the mist of ignorance which overspreads the world! Some noble efforts though I see the nature of man preparing to make, to recover that eminence of conjecture and credulity which alone can merit such a communication of extraordinary knowledge as is now indulged to you. Some of the most hidden truths which I shall here unfold, has unassisted genius discovered already; and more shall curious penetration make learned guesses at, even in this sceptick age*.

* See all the modern hypothetical philosophy.

Know then, that in the economy of nature, to ease the trouble, and keep up the state of its great authour, * a subordination of ministerial spirits executes the system of his government in all its degrees; one of whom, for the greater order and expedition, is made to actuate every divided particle of matter in this immense universe. In this distribution, *that* portion of gold was assigned to my charge, upon its first feeling the influence of the † etherial fire of the sun, the general minister of the divine commands. This happened in *Peru*, where *that* body of which I then became the spirit, was torn from its peaceful bed 200 fathoms deep in the bowels of the earth.

I shall not describe my surprize, at my first plunging into those realms of darkness, nor shall I satisfy the curiosity I see rising in you, whether that period was the beginning of my existence, or whether I was, either as a punishment or reward for a past, or a preparation for a future life, thrown into

* Essay on Spirit.

† Siris.

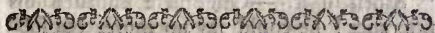
— Would not these, and many other passages of the same nature which support the systems of those celebrated works, almost tempt us to think, that the writers of them must have had a communication with this or some such spirit, to come at knowledge so supernatural?

this. These are mysteries not yet discovered, though often most learnedly guessed at. All I shall unfold to you are points already known, or such as I see ready to be found out by human industry, as it would put an end to learning to make a revelation of the objects of its enquiries! such matters, I say, I shall explain to you, and farther, relate some occurrences, the knowledge of which will be equally useful and entertaining, which happened to the several persons with whom I have had intercourse, in the various stages of my present state.

And as you may be at a loss, to know how I could arrive at the knowledge of such facts, many of which happened long before my converse with those persons, I shall inform you, that besides that *intuitive knowledge* common to all spirits, we of superior orders, who animate this universal monarch GOLD, have also a power of entering into the hearts of the immediate possessors of our bodies, and there reading all the secrets of their lives. And this will explain to you, the cause of that love of gold, which is so remarkable in all who possess any quantity of that metal. * For the operation of every material cause, is in proportion to

* Essay on Spirit.

the strength of the spirit actuating that cause; as the strength of the spirit is reciprocally in proportion to the quantity of his material body: and consequently, when the mighty spirit of a large mass of gold takes possession of the human heart, it influences all its actions, and overpowers, or banishes, the weaker impulse of those immaterial, unessential notions called *virtues*. And this intuition, and power of transmigration I have thus explained, to remove every shadow of doubt of what I shall relate.



C H A P. II.

CHRYSAL gives an account of the person who dug up his body, in the mine. The particular manner of his acquiring the knowledge of his life, with an explanation of the nature of memory and consciousness.

THE first object that struck me, when I darted on the power of a sun-beam, into those infernal regions where my body was just dug up, was the person in whose hands it was when I took possession of it.

Dark as the gloom of such a place must be, a melancholy, that doubled the horrors of it, sat upon his brow. He gazed a moment on *me*, in silent grief, and then groaned out these words with a vehemence that seemed to burst his heart: “ Damned, “ damned, pernicious, damning gold! “ how dearly do I purchase this momentary possession of thee! But let me acknowledge the justice of my fate! I “ wished only for gold, and now, this “ equivocal grant of that wish, is the just “ punishment of the folly, and the wickedness of it.”—Grief here choaked his utterance! he could say no more, but sobbed aloud, while all the dreary caverns echoed to his anguish.

Curiosity prompted me to learn the cause of his distress: I therefore immediately entered into his heart, to read the events of his life, which I doubted not but I should find deeply imprinted there: but I was surprized to find that room in it, which, I could plainly see, had been possessed by the love of gold, so filled with sense of pain, with grief, and remorse, that I could scarce gain admission.

Upon this I mounted into the *cenforium* of his brain, to learn from the spirit of consciousness, which you call SELF, the cause

cause of so uncommon a change, as it is contrary to the fundamental rules of our order, ever to give up an heart of which we once get possession.

I found the spirit very busy, though I thought somewhat odly employed: she was running over a number of *niches*, or impressions, on the fibres of the brain, some of which I observed she renewed with such force, that she almost effaced others, which she passed over untouched, though interspersed among them. The sight of *me* seemed to suspend her works a moment, but as if that pause was only to recover strength, she instantly renewed her labour with greater assiduity.

I *looked at her*, my desire to know the meaning of what she was doing, and to signify the cause of my visit, to which she returned me this answer in *a glance*, that interrupted not her work.

(I see you wonder, that I speak of this spirit, though the SELF of a man, as if it was a female; but in this there is a mystery; every spirit is of both sexes, but as the female is the worthier with us, we take our denomination from that.)

You are surpris'd, (*looked she*) to find me so earnestly engaged, in work which you do not understand; but in this work

consists my very essence. This place, where we are, is the seat of memory; and these traces, which you see me running over thus, are the impressions made on the brain by a communication of the impressions made on the senses by external objects.—These first impressions are called *ideas*, which are lodged in this repository of the memory, in these marks, by running which over, I can raise the same *ideas*, when I please, which differ from their first appearance only in this, that, on their return, they come with the familiarity of a former acquaintance.

How this communication though is made, I cannot so well inform you; whether it is by the *oscillation of the nervous fibres*, or by the *operation of a certain invisible fluid*, called *animal spirits*, on the nerves; no more than I can explain to you, how my touching these marks, on this material substance the brain, can raise *ideas* in the immaterial mind, and with the addition of acquaintance beside; for these are matters not quite fully settled among the learned.

All I know is, that the thing is agreed to be so by some, or other, or all of these means; and that my whole employment, and end of being, is to touch them over, and acknowledge their acquaintance thus; without my doing which, a man would no longer continue the same person, for in this

acquaintance, which is called *consciousness*, does all personal identity consist.*

As for the work, I am just now particularly engaged in, you must know, that this man whom, as I am *his self*, I shall henceforth, for conciseness and perspicuity, call *my self*, was once possessed of, or in power of possessing, every real happiness of life, till an insatiable desire of riches hurried him into measures which overturned all that happiness, and in the end plunged him into this gulph of misery.

The traces of that happiness are those which you see me pass over without renewing; by which means he forgets that he was ever happy, except sometimes, when the trace of any particular unhappiness comes so near that of any instance of happiness, as unavoidably to touch it; which touch, by the renewal of the idea of such happiness, only aggravates the sense of the present want of it: And thus *I* make memory either a blessing or a curse, according to the nature of the trace which *I* renew.

I see you are astonished, how a person who was ever happy, could possibly fall into such misery as *I* am now in; but I shall remove that astonishment, by the history of *my* life, in which I shall accommodate

* Locke.

my accounts of places and things to the circumstances of my present state, without regard to the universality of *our* spiritual nature ; and call them by their names among men, without the delay or trouble of description.



C H A P. III.

The history of TRAFFICK. *His father's advice to him ; containing some general observations on the nature and end of trade ; with rules to ensure success in it.*

MY name is *Traffick* ; I was the only son of a wealthy merchant in *London*, who bred me to his own business. There was nothing remarkable in my youth, except that the characteristick passion of my heart, shewed itself, in the very dawn of reason, in my eagerness to engross and hoard up the bawbles of my play-mates, and the far-fetched schemes I laid to overreach them in all our little bargains.

My father was at first delighted with this cunning, which his fondness took for the first essays of a great genius ; but, when he saw me persist in it after I grew up, and attempt to practise the same arts, in the course

course of my business, it gave him serious alarms for my future conduct; for he had ever been averse to these artifices which are called the mysteries of commerce, and owed his success solely to close application, in the plain way of a fair trader.

But this caution I looked upon with contempt, as timidity and want of genius, and, undiscouraged by his constant repulses to all my *bold strokes* and deep schemes, which I was continually suggesting to him, I resolved, when I should be at liberty, to indulge my own inclinations, to strike out new ways, that should afford me opportunities of exerting my abilities in their full strength, and shewing them in their proper lustre.

The vanity which prompted avarice to form these designs, would so often break out in boasting, that my father was fully acquainted with them; and a sensible decline in his health quickening his apprehensions for me, his tenderness would omit nothing which might shew me my error, in its proper light, and prevent my falling into so destructive ways.

Calling me therefore into his closet, one morning, he addressed me in these words; words which dear experience has now printed deeply on my heart, though then they had no weight with me.

“ My

“ My son (said he) the day approaches
“ fast, when you will be in possession of the
“ fruits of my honest industry. I leave
“ you a good fortune; and I have the
“ happiness to be able to tell you, in this
“ trying moment, that no wilful private
“ wrong, or public fraud, makes me wish
“ it were, by one penny, less.—As there-
“ fore it was acquired in the fear of God,
“ if not abused, it will wear with his bles-
“ sing. Habit had so wedded me to my
“ business, that I could not leave it off
“ myself; and I bred you to it, to in-
“ dulse, as I thought, the bent of your
“ genius, and to prevent idleness from
“ tempting youth to folly.—But now, that
“ dangerous season is past with you; and
“ the labour of my life has taken away all
“ necessity of labour from yours. Be
“ wise then, my son, and enjoy the happi-
“ ness which Heaven offers you, without
“ tempting a reverse! You will have
“ riches, more than enough, for every
“ natural want, for every rational wish;
“ and it will sweeten your enjoyment of
“ them, and draw down the blessings of
“ heaven on your head; to employ the
“ super-plus in acts of private benevolence,
“ and public spirit; in which best of em-
“ ployments, the abilities, with which you
“ are

“ are so liberally blessed, will find ample
“ room for their exertion ; and your pious
“ endeavours be rewarded with a success,
“ that will be an happiness to your life, and
“ an honour to your name.

“ As for the profession of a merchant,
“ to which you have been bred, heaven
“ points it out to the inhabitants of this
“ country, by our situation ; nor can any
“ other be more advantageous to it ; but
“ still, even that advantage may be pur-
“ sued too far, and the extreme of industry
“ may sink into avarice, and so disappoint
“ its own end.

“ For I must tell you, my son, that
“ though trade adds to the wealth, yet too
“ eager a pursuit of it, even with the great-
“ est success, diminishes the strength of a
“ nation. I am sensible, that this is
“ against received opinion ; but truth, when
“ properly displayed, will force convic-
“ tion.

“ The real strength of a nation consists
“ in the prevalence of disinterested spirit,
“ which, regardless of *self*, throws its
“ weight into the public fund ; as may be
“ proved by many examples of small, poor
“ states, conquering large wealthy ones.
“ Whereas the spirit of commerce centers
“ all in *self*, discouraging and despising, as
“ folly,

“ folly, every thought which does not tend
“ that way; and so breaking that unani-
“ mity, which is the very essence of power,
“ and only can give it success.—A re-
“ flection this, my son, which observation
“ confirms too strongly at present, and
“ which seems to overcast the prospect of
“ this happy nation.

“ My advice therefore to you is, to re-
“ tire from business, though not to idle-
“ ness. You will have a fortune that will
“ make you of consequence in the state,
“ and give you sufficient employment in the
“ conduct of it, without embarrassing your
“ mind with anxiety for more. And, to
“ to enable you to follow this advice with
“ the greater ease, I have settled all my
“ affairs, and shall leave you free from
“ every entanglement of life. This is the
“ advice, the request of a fond father, who
“ desires compliance from his dear son, and
“ would not force unwilling obedience, by
“ any act of authority or command.—
“ But should the love of business have taken
“ such an hold of your heart, as habit gave
“ it of mine, and not permit you to com-
“ ply with this request, take, my son, the
“ advice of experience, and hold fast the
“ clue it offers, to guide you through the
“ labyrinths of trade, in which the vivacity
“ of

“ of your genius may, otherwise, lose its
“ way. Nor are the rules, I shall hint to
“ you, many to be remembered, or diffi-
“ cult to be observed.

“ *Be just, my son, in all your dealings ;*
“ *wrong not individuals, nor defraud the pub-*
“ *lic.*

“ These are all the rules I recommend ;
“ but in them is comprized more than,
“ perhaps, appears at first view. Do not,
“ therefore, think them too obvious to have
“ been necessary to be repeated ! nor let
“ the mention of them give offence, by any
“ seeming implication of personal doubt.

“ In the business of a merchant, these
“ rules comprehend a great extent of mean-
“ ing, though I shall mention but a few
“ instances of it at present.

“ As for the first, every misrepresenta-
“ tion to mislead ignorance, or abuse cre-
“ dulity, every taking advantage by supe-
“ rior knowledge, is a wrong to the party
“ so deceived, as every artifice to evade
“ the intention of the legislature is a fraud
“ against the public, nay, against your-
“ self, and every individual who claims
“ the benefits provided by the ordinances,
“ so defeated of their support.

“ This indeed is so obvious, that it were
“ an affront to reason to insist on any proof
“ of

“ of it. The most eager pursuer of illicit
 “ trade will not vindicate a general indul-
 “ gence of it; and if it is not lawful for all,
 “ how can it be for him; or with what co-
 “ lour can he claim a profit, which he is
 “ conscious arises only from deceit, and
 “ from the benefit of those very laws, which
 “ it thus defeats.

“ The temptations to this breach of ho-
 “ nesty, I own, are many and great, and
 “ some of them perhaps plausible; par-
 “ ticularly in those branches of trade,
 “ which seem to bear a more than equal
 “ share of the weight imposed for general
 “ advantage. But, in opposition to this,
 “ it must be considered, that it is impossi-
 “ ble to provide so exactly for a thing, of
 “ so fluctuating a nature as trade, that the
 “ ballance shall not incline, in some one
 “ instance; and that it must, by the same
 “ motion which oppresses one, be favour-
 “ able to some other; and so preserve the
 “ equi-poise in the whole; and this ob-
 “ viates the only shadow of an argument,
 “ that can be brought in defence of this
 “ too common practice.

“ As for the former, of avoiding pri-
 “ vate wrong, that is more difficult, and
 “ less defensible, if possible, than even
 “ this. For where all the powers of the
 “ mind

“ mind are turned to *make* advantage, it is
“ very hard to refrain from *taking* it, where
“ we ought not, and bringing the great
“ business of life into common practice, in
“ its minutest concerns.

“ The man whose soul is on the stretch,
“ to take advantage, in a bargain for thou-
“ sands, on the *Exchange*, will be apt per-
“ haps insensibly to overlook an error
“ that is not to his disadvantage, in a
“ tradesman's bill, or to take no notice of
“ a guinea given instead of a shilling in
“ change at the tavern, though either is as
“ great dishonesty as if he took them, in a
“ manner punishable with death by the
“ laws: not to mention the innumerable
“ little instances of temptation to this kind
“ of wrong, which occur in every moment's
“ dealing. That we may avoid temptation,
“ is one of the petitions of the divine prayer,
“ and never more necessary to be offered
“ up than in this profession, whose con-
“ stant practice opens innumerable instances
“ of it upon us.

“ In a word, my son, there are so many
“ and so strong arguments of this nature,
“ to be given against all trade, that the
“ general advantage of the common-wealth
“ alone can, in any way, support it against
“ them. This therefore should be written
“ in

“ in the deepest characters, on the heart of
 “ every merchant, *that he should never let*
 “ *private interest tempt him to engage in any*
 “ *trade or scheme that can interfere with the*
 “ *publick interest, or is forbidden by the laws*
 “ *of his country.*—I shall say no more;
 “ nor burthen your mind with farther ad-
 “ vice. Observe this, and be happy.”

I was obliged to hear him; but his words,
 at that time, made no more impresson on
 my mind, than the whistling of the winds,
 nor in the least altered my intentions; though
 I felt no scruple in promising obedience,
 the breach of which could never be up-
 braided to me, as I could not think of
 practising it, before his death should remove
 the only person who had such an autho-
 rity.

C H A P. IV.

The history of TRAFFICK continued: His father's death. He continues in trade, and turns schemer. His various schemes end in his ruin. The rise and progress of his passion for AMELIA. The base abuse of her confidence, by which he cheated her of the greatest part of her fortune, and afterwards formed dishonourable designs against herself.

THE opportunities which I had long panted for, arrived too soon: my father dying just after I was of age, and leaving me possessed of wealth sufficient for me to exercise my talents on, as I was not blessed with prudence to take his advice, and put it to its proper use, in rational enjoyment.

I was immediately a man of consequence, and that, not only in my own eyes. I made a figure *upon Change*; I signed among the foremost in the public subscriptions. But all this did not satisfy me. I sickened at the thought of having an equal, not only in wealth, the darling passion of my soul; but also

also in the reputation of acquiring it by methods of my own *striking out*, as I looked upon the known course of business as too slow for my advances, and too limited for my genius.

I therefore immediately became a SCHEMER, and entered into every project which my own brain could invent, or artful imposition suggest to me, blindly, wilfully giving up the serenity of an open mind, for the vain appearance of mysterious consequence and design; and making my fortune a prey to every sharking *projector* who flattered my vanity with promises of success, in the very attempts which had been his own ruin.

The perplexity in which this infatuation soon involved my affairs, far from opening my eyes, only set me upon deeper schemes. *Sporting* upon private adventures, *taking in* unwary confidence, *singing* the fair trader, by eluding the restrictions of law, were now too small a game for me: I was entangled, and must cut the *Gordian knot* by some bold stroke.

I therefore threw off all restraint, and entered into measures the most injurious to my country, which was then engaged in a just and extensive war. I *insured* the effects of its enemies, and of consequence gave them
them

them information how to avoid its forces. I *carried on their trade* with other countries: I *supplied* them with provisions from ours; and at length went so far, as to *lend, and procure them money* to support the war against ourselves.

But all my schemes met their just fate. Though I could give their ships information how to avoid our squadrons, yet they fell into the hands of *unstationed* privateers. My subterfuges for carrying on their trade were seen through, and a stop put to them before I could receive the stipulated profit. The stores I bought for them were intercepted by our fleets, and, to conclude all, the enemy, by one stretch of arbitrary power, at the conclusion of a peace, cancelled all the debts of the war.

This finished my ruin: I had not only lent them all my own fortune, but had also borrowed much more to supply them, on confidence in their promises, than I was now able to pay.

In this situation, the advice of my father returned full upon me, and aggravated my distress. But I had no time for reflection; the horrors of a jail stared me full in the face, which I had no way to avoid but by flight, the equivocalness of my character having made every honest man, who was able

able to assist me, afraid of being concerned with me.

I therefore immediately raised all the money I possibly could, and embarked secretly in a ship of my own, for *Jamaica*; Heaven, to make its justice the more signal, using my blackest guilt as a chain to draw me to the vengeance I deserved.

I must stop here, and look back, to give you an account of an affair, which the precipitancy of my ruin prevented my mentioning in its proper order.

Much as such a complicated scene as I have described, must have taken up my time and engrossed my thoughts, I had still found leisure for guilt of another nature, though ultimately springing from the same cause.

I have told you, that my father had acquired his own fortune by industry; but as the greatest industry requires a foundation to work upon, his had been assisted by the person to whom he served his apprenticeship, who knowing his abilities, and confiding in his honesty, upon the decline of his own health, established him in partnership with his only son, whom he thought too young to conduct so extensive a business.

My

My father faithfully executed this great trust, and continued the partnership, till his observation of my unfortunate disposition determined him to make me quit business; when it was dissolved, without the least breach in that real friendship which had so long subsisted between them. Though I did not obey my father's desire, and retire from business on his death, yet my vanity would not admit a thought of recommencing the partnership, as it would have been but a curb on my favourite schemes, and have implied a want of assistance, which, in my own opinion, I was far above. On the contrary, I rather declined too close a connection with him in business; as I feared he might have taken upon him to interpose his advice against any thing, which his *narrow fearful* temper might disapprove in my *great* designs; but as I kept up every other appearance of regard, and even respect for him, this shyness was not observed, nor any coolness occasioned by it, in the intercourse of intimacy between us.

But for this conduct I had another motive, besides regard for *him*. He had an only daughter, enriched with every beauty and virtue that could mark the favourite work of heaven: she was about four years

younger than me, which difference of age had given me an opportunity of treating her with such a fondness, from her very infancy, as raised a real love in her grateful heart, as her beauties did the strongest one it was capable of feeling in mine. Our fathers had seen this growing attachment, with the greatest pleasure, from the beginning, and encouraged it between us, (our mothers both died in our infancy) joining in the general opinion, that the union which had always been between their families would be compleated by the intermarriage of their children: an opinion that was then my pride, and seemed a pleasure to the young *Amelia's* honest heart, that was above disguise.

But my father's death, before she was of an age to undertake the care of such an awful state, and a long illness of her father's after, during which her filial piety and love would not admit a thought of any thing that should interfere with her tender regard for him, prevented my happiness from being accomplished, while there was any obstacle that could hinder my evil genius from defeating it.

At length, after languishing five years, her father died, without a moment's more

im-

immediate warning, having been on the Exchange that Day as usual.

In the tumult of this loss, I was sent for; and no will being found, for he unhappily had not imagined his end so near, nor made any settlement of his affairs, in the confidence of our attachment, *Amelia* gave every thing into my hands, and requested me to make up all her father's accounts, and conclude her dealings with the world.

This happened just as my *scheming* had begun to embarrass my affairs. My heart therefore, never proof to much temptation, yielded to such an opportunity of recovering the losses of my folly at her expence, by *sinking* the greatest part of her fortune to my own use; never considering, that I might have the whole in a just and honourable way, enhanced with the greater blessing of herself.

To accomplish this design, and prepare her for what was to follow, I pretended to *Amelia*, that I found many difficulties in her father's affairs; and having secreted as much as I thought proper, and could with safety, and destroyed every memorial that might detect me, for all which her unbounded confidence gave ample opportunity, I at length gave her in an account, with the strongest expressions of concern;

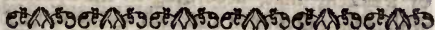
to find that what I had long apprehended was too true, and her father's affairs in a very bad situation; that I had however, with great difficulty, got together something above 10,000*l.* and was convinced, that this perplexity in his Affairs, was the occasion of his long illness, and had not left him spirit enough to enquire into them, and make a will.

This representation had the effect I designed; *Amelia's* confidence in me would not admit a thought of my deceiving her; as pride, too powerful in the purest human heart, prevented her revealing her circumstances to any one else, who might have attempted to disprove what I said; though indeed it was scarce natural to suspect me of a deceit, that, according to the opinion which then prevailed concerning *Amelia* and me, could only affect myself.

She, therefore, with an appearance of surprize rather than doubt, or even concern, acquiesced, and signed a receipt in full, desiring me to destroy all her father's books and papers, as they could be of no farther Use to her.

This compleated my design, beyond a possibility of detection, and even raised a new one against the poor pittance I had left her, though it was not quite a fourth part of what was really her right: for I had
now

now thrown off all thoughts of marriage with one *so far beneath me in fortune, looking upon it as a reproach to my wisdom and knowledge of the world, to make any bargain in which I should not have the advantage:* for what I had so basely defrauded her of, I considered merely as an acquisition of my superiour skill in business, and absolutely my own, without any manner of obligation to the person from whom I had obtained it: not that I had lost my *desire* for her person, (the only degree of love my heart was capable of feeling) but the advantage I had it now in my hopes to obtain over her, made me look upon her as a sure prey to my pleasure.



C H A P. V.

Continued. He cheats AMELIA of the residue of her fortune, and marries another woman. AMELIA sues him at law, is cast, and goes for JAMAICA. He is ruined, and follows her.

THOUGH my whole life was one continued scene of villany, yet in all, there was a gradation, a regular de-

scant from bad to worse; each successful crime opening new opportunities and suggesting schemes which never entered into my thoughts before.

This was exactly my case with regard to *Amelia*. While she was in possession of her whole fortune, the highest wish of my heart was to marry her; but no sooner had an unhappy accident given me an opportunity of defrauding her of far the greatest part of it, than that respectful love immediately sunk into loose desire, and my success in the former set my thoughts at work to accomplish the gratification of the latter, on my own base terms.

To bring this design to perfection, it was necessary that I should get her fortune entirely into my power; which I accordingly formed schemes to accomplish without delay: for the success of my former attempt, so far from satisfying my avarice, or raising any sense of compassion in my breast, for her wrongs, had made me look upon herself, and all that belonged to her, as my property, which I was as impatient to possess as if it was detained from me by injustice.

I therefore took occasion one day, when we were alone together, to drop some words of concern, at my not having immediately

mediately by me, a sum of money to lay out on most advantagious terms, which had been that very morning proposed to me.

She directly took the hint, and said, her little fortune was still in her hands, in the same bank-notes I had given her; and if the use of it, for any time, could be of advantage to me, she should feel a greater pleasure in my taking it, than in any profit she could make of it any other way.

This was just what I wished; and though I could scarce refrain from laughing, at the easiness with which she took the bait, I would not accept of her offer but with this restriction, that I would consider whether the terms proposed to *me* might not suit *her*, and be more advantagious than the interest I could afford her if I should make use of it myself. I said this with an equivocal smile, which she understood as I would have her, and immediately, with an assenting blush, put the notes into my hand, without requiring a receipt or any kind of acknowledgment for them.

Having thus gained that which I reckoned the better part of *Amelia*, and, sure, as I imagined, of herself, when necessity should humble her to my designs, as I had her whole means even of subsistence in my

power, I directly resolved to cloſe with an offer, ſome time before made me by a wealthy merchant, of a large fortune, with his daughter, whom I accordingly married a few days after I had got poſſeſſion of *Amelia's* money.

I ſhall ſpare myſelf the pain of any farther deſcription of my wife, than that ſhe was the very reverse of *Amelia*, in ſoul and body; and my marriage conſequently as unhappy as I juſtly deſerved.

But I comforted myſelf with hopes of happineſs in the enjoyment of *Amelia*, whom I looked upon as my own, and only deſerred making my baſe propoſals to, till her reſentment at my marriage ſhould cool, and I could deviſe ſome plan of privacy to elude the vigilance of my wife. Not but I dreaded the firſt emotions of her anger, which I expected to break out in loud complaints. But I was miſtaken, in meaſuring her ſoul thus by my own. She ſcorned to complain; nor did I hear a word from her, to interrupt the riot of my wedding. A greatneſs of ſoul, ſo far above my comprehension, that I attributed it to fear of giving offence to one, in whoſe power ſhe muſt be ſenſible ſhe was.

But, at the end of the month, I was awoke from thoſe dreams, by a meſſage
from

from her, delivered by a relation of her's, to desire I should pay in her money to him, for which he would give me her receipt. As I was not prepared for this, I believe it threw me into a confusion too visible; but I soon recovered presence of mind enough to answer, that "I could not but be surprized at such a demand, as *Amelia* must be sensible, that I had paid her all the money of her's that was in my hands, for which I had her discharge in full.

The gentleman replied in astonishment, "Her discharge, Sir! that was when you *settled* her affairs; but she says, that she, since then, gave her whole fortune into your hands, to lay out for her. And, Sir, *my* cousin is known to be neither a fool nor a liar; though I fear she has suffered severely for her ill-placed confidence". — "Perhaps she says so, Sir, (said I) but I know nothing of the matter, and am not accountable for what she says or you think, Sir; and I suppose, if your cousin is not a fool, she has not given her money without something to shew for it.—But you must excuse my talking any longer on so idle a subject; and so Sir, your servant." —

The mine was now sprung, and I waited with impatience for the event. As to her

demand, I knew she could never support it, as there was no person present when she gave me the notes; and I had negociated them in a manner, beyond all possibility of their being traced,

While I was hugging myself in this security, the friends of *Amelia* persuaded her to bring a bill in Chancery against me, in which the whole affair was set forth without any exaggeration. But this I made light of, as I had *my lawyer* ready, under whose directions I swore such an answer as set her charge entirely aside.—Elate with this success, I thought this the time to pursue my victory, and wrote her a letter, in which I attributed every thing in my conduct of late, that might have surprized her, to love, and despair of obtaining her by any other method; and offered her a settlement above the demand she had made to me, if she would consent to my desires. This I wrote in such general terms, that my letter could not be brought in evidence against me, and the largeness of the offer was only to decoy her into a treaty, there being nothing farther from my thoughts than ever to make her independant of my pleasure.

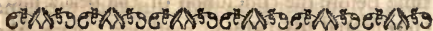
This insult only added new fuel to her resentment; and all the answer I received, was

was by another bill; but this met the same fate, by the same methods, with the former.

After this, I heard no more of *Amelia* for some time: but what was my astonishment, when I was informed, that she had sold off her jewels, and other little effects, and was gone to a relation of her's, who lived in *Jamaica*. This broke all my designs; and despair of ever obtaining her awoke my love, and aggravated my remorse for my ill usage of her almost to madness.

From this time the hand of heaven seemed to be upon me; every thing I had any concern in miscarried; and to hasten on my ruin, my house was a perfect sink of riot and debauchery: my wife, as she had no charms to excite desire, in a manner publicly purchasing the gratification of her lusts at the most extravagant expence, and living in a profusion that must destroy even a royal fortune.

Mine, great as it had been, sunk under so many dissipations of all kinds; and I had no resource left as I said before, but in precipitate flight, which heaven made my passion for *Amelia* direct to *Jamaica*, to mark the justice of its vengeance the more plainly.



C H A P. VI.

Conclusion of the history of TRAFFICK. He arrives in Jamaica, where he learns that AMELIA had been taken by the Spaniards. He turns buccanier, and ravages the Spanish coasts, where he finds AMELIA. Just as he is going to seize her; he is knocked down by her husband, and taken prisoner. He is condemned to die. He sues to AMELIA for mercy; she rejects him with abhorrence. His punishment is changed from death to the Mines.

I Had hitherto varnished over my villainies with hypocrisy, and strove to preserve some appearance, at least, of virtue. But this was a restraint no longer possible, nor indeed profitable to me now, when my flight took off the veil, and alarmed all mankind against me; so that mine was really a state of war with all the world.

On my arrival in *Jamaica*, I had the addition to my grief to find, that *Amelia* had been taken in her passage thither by a *Spanish* privateer: for she had left *England* some time

time before the conclusion of the peace had compleated my ruin.

This drove me to despair: I was wearied of life; but resolved not to die unrevengeed on those who had thus, as I thought, robbed me of my hopes; never reflecting on the improbability of her hearkening to my suit.

Burning with this project, I fitted out my ship, and manned her with a crew as desperate as myself; resolving, though the war was at an end, to pursue my revenge upon the *Spaniards* on the defenceless coasts of their *American* dominions, in which my other passions were urged to haste, by fear of my creditors, the news of my sailing having come to *Jamaica* almost as soon as myself.

We therefore set out upon our cruise, or rather piracy, without delay, of which I shall not raise your horror with any further particulars, than that we went directly into the *Spanish Main*, where we not only rifled all the ships we met, but also made descents on the coasts, and ravaged with a barbarity that was a reproach to human nature.

The tumult and hurry of this life kept my spirits in an agitation, that gave a kind of respite to my grief; and the spoil we made in our first enterprizes was so great,

as to awake hopes of restoring my affairs, so as to enable me to return to *England* with all the credit wealth could give.

And could I have known when to stop, I was soon rich even beyond my most sanguine hopes: But urged by avarice, and encouraged by success, I still went on headlong to my fate, which I met in an attempt upon a Town, some way up in the country, the convenience and pleasantness of whose Situation had made it the residence of the richest families in the whole province; as its distance from the coast made them live in a state of perfect security, without any fortification or guard.

To this place we directed our march, one evening, and arrived at it a little after midnight, with an intention to surprize the inhabitants, and return to our ship with the spoil, before the country could rise to intercept us.

The first part of our Design succeeded, and we got possession of the town without any resistance; where we committed all the outrages, and roamed about with the licentious carelessness of free-booters, under no command.

While every one thus prowled about for prey, fate goaded me to an arbour in a garden, whither I followed the cries of women.

I was just rushing in among them, inflamed with brutal desire, when—what was my astonishment to see *Amelia*, in the most magnificent undress, throwing heaps of gold and jewels into a vault that opened by a trap-door into the harbour. I stood motionless at the sight for some moments, in distrust of my senses, but two such objects as she and her riches, soon woke me from my trance, and I advanced to take possession of both, resolving not to discover myself till a more proper time; the strangeness of my dress, that was designed to strike horror, and the blood which, from scenes of cruelty and murder just committed, still reeked upon my hands and face, making it impossible that she should know me.

At the sight of me, the women all shrieked, and *Amelia*, as I advanced to lay hold on her, fell into a swoon. This embarrassed me greatly, as I had no time to lose; for our centinels just then sounded a retreat. However, I thought I would wait a little, to see if she recovered, and stooping to raise her, to give her air, I received such a blow from behind, as deprived me of all sense for several hours; when, on my recovering, I found myself chained on the ground in a dungeon.

I was some time before I could believe my senses, or conceive where I was: but I soon found my fate, when the jailor coming to see if I was alive, gave me to understand, that my companions had gone off without me, and left me in the hands of a nobleman, who had himself knocked me down, as I was going to commit a rape upon his lady, while she lay in a swoon; and that I had been thrown into this dungeon, that if I recovered, I might suffer the punishment due to the outrages we had committed both here, and in several other places of their dominions.

I wanted no further information to shew me the horrors of my situation. I saw them all, and aggravated an hundred fold, by the accusations of my own conscience, that could now trace the hand of Heaven in the justice of my punishment, which had thus overtaken me, in the presence, and on the account of *Amelia*.—I wished for death, as my only relief, and determined to seek it: But, alas! my resolution failed me; and I feared to die. In this misery I was dragged before a magistrate, who, enumerating the crimes we had been guilty of, condemned me to immediate death.—This sentence, so much milder than my fears, awoke an hope of farther mercy, to obtain which, my evil
genius.

genius suggested it to me, to apply to *Amelia*, absurdly flattering myself, that some sparks of her love for me might yet remain alive, or at least, her goodness take delight in shewing itself superior to my ill-treatment. Base hope, that met its just reward!

I therefore waved attempting a defence of other crimes, as I was conscious, that I could not make any, but asserted my innocence, as to the particular charge of a base design upon *Amelia*, at the time I was taken, adding, that “ I had the honour of
“ being nearly related to that lady, and
“ that, if I was indulged with a few words
“ with her, in the presence of all there, I
“ hoped I might be found to merit a mitigation of my sentence.”

On my mentioning the name of *Amelia*, I observed one of the principal persons in the court, whom I soon understood to be her husband, kindle into rage. He did not however interrupt me; but as soon as I had concluded, he started up, and exclaimed with the most furious indignation: *Amelia thy relation! No more than angels are related to devils, by springing from the same Creator! Her virtues are dishonoured by the claim! But she shall appear and disprove the odious calumny!*—Saying which words, he instantly went for her, while an hollow
murmur

murmur of surprize and detestation made the silence of the court the more dreadful, and heightened the horrors of my suspense.

But I waited not long; *Amelia* soon appeared, led in by her husband, and being seated by the judge, “Where (said she, looking round with the serenity of conscious virtue) Where is the person who says he is related to me?”

The sight of her threw me into such a conflict of passions, that, without reflecting where I was, or how necessary it might be for me to raise her compassion by some moving address, that might soften the severity of her resentment for my former treatment of her, as well as assure her of my innocence of any base design against her person, in the condition she was in when I was taken, I could not forbear crying out in *English*, for I had spoken before in *Spanish*, in which I expressed myself but badly. O, *Amelia!* hast thou then forgot me?

At the sound of my voice, she started, and looking earnestly at me for a moment, fell upon her knees, and lifting her hands and eyes to Heaven, she said aloud in *Spanish*, “O God, how signal is thy justice! Let me, let all the world acknowledge and adore it!”—And then rising, and turning

turning to her husband, who stood in amazement; *This, my lord* (said she) *this is the man of whom I have informed you.* *This is that Traffick* whose base dishonesty obliged me to leave my native country; and so, by that providence which is able to turn the greatest misfortune into a blessing, was made the cause of my present happiness with you. I abjure all kindred with him; I desire he may be examined as to my story; and if he can vary in the least from what I have told you, let me be condemned to the severest punishment, but that of staying longer in his sight, or ever seeing his face more. *to no longer a not believ*

On this she withdrew, without deigning a look at me. But her words had a proper effect upon my heart, and I resolved to do her justice. I therefore prevented her husband's commands, and, in as few words as possible, related the black affair, with the strictest truth. When I had concluded, her lord declared, that I had not only confirmed every thing she had told him, but also added many circumstances of my own guilt, which she had omitted, or perhaps not known. *to no longer a not believ*

So complicated guilt seemed to require consideration to find out proper punishment, *CHAP. 10* so

so I was remanded to my dungeon, but without the least encouragement to hope. The next day I was again brought into the court, where my former sentence was changed into that of being broke alive upon the wheel; and this severity was said to be in justice to *Amelia*.

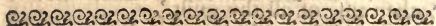
When I had stood some moments stupefied with fear, the judge addressed me again in these words: ‘Thou hast heard, O wretched man, the sentence due to thy crimes; but great as they have been, mercy extends her hand to thee. The virtues of the illustrious *Donna Amelia* over-balance thy guilt, and have prevailed for a mitigation of thy punishment, in gratitude to that divine providence which made thee the cause of her coming among us. Thou shalt not die, because we would not kill thy soul, before thou hast had time to repent of thy crimes; nor shalt thou suffer torture, that thy strength may not be impaired for the labour to which thy life is doomed; for this is the last day that thou shalt ever behold the light of heaven: Thou shalt immediately descend into the mines, there to work out the residue of thy unhappy days, in raising that Gold for the use of others,

‘Others, the insatiable desire of which was
‘the cause of all thy guilt.’

‘I would have spoken, in the agony of
my soul, to desire death; but I was stopped
by the judge, who sternly said, that to hear
a word from me would be an insult upon
justice. On his saying which, I was hur-
ried away to the mountains over us, and
precipitated into this gulph, where I have
now been near.——

Just as he said this, I was obliged to fly
away to my body, which the unhappy *Traf-*
sick had thrown from his Hand, into the
vessel in which it was to be raised from the
Mine.

The length of this story will make you
wonder, when I tell you, that the spirit of
Traffick shewed it to me in a moment, for
no longer did the gold remain in his posses-
sion; and I am always obliged to attend my
body whenever it changes its master. But
to understand this, you must be informed,
that *we* spirits do not distinguish our exis-
tence by Time, or a succession of parts, as
men do; with us, there is nothing past or
to come, but every thing is present in one
view, so far as the natural course of causes
and effects is preserved free from interruption
by superior power.



CH A P. VII.

CHRYSAL pursues the history of his adventures. He explains some difficulties in his brown nature. He is offered at confession to a priest. The confession and creed of a native PERUVIAN. The penance enjoined him by a Jesuit.

THERE is no crime, however black in its own nature, that does not receive an aggravation from hypocrisy; but the highest exertion of this vice is, when it makes a pretext of the best institutions, to promote the practice of the worst actions. Of this I have seen innumerable instances; in the adventures of my present state; though none so flagrant as what I shall now relate.

You may imagine I felt pleasure at emerging from that infernal abyss into light. There was nothing remarkable in the three or four first stages I went through, my temporary owners being only the refiners and other tradesmen, who purified me from mixtures of mineral dross.

I see you are desirous to know how I could preserve my identity, when melted down with large quantities of the same metal. But you must know, that spirits have a power of expanding or contracting themselves into what dimensions they please; and that their life is not confined to any particular parts, as the heart, or head, as in man, but is diffused through their whole bodies, so that any part being separated from the rest, does not die, but that portion of spirit which was in it, at the time of such separation, serves as a life for it, and becomes a distinct spirit, to inform that distinct body, and so on, *ad infinitum*: For as it is agreed upon, that bodies can be infinitely divided, upon the same principles spirit must also: for it would be most absurd and impious to deny of the superiour, any perfection which we attribute to the inferiour.——The enlarging of my body, therefore, by the addition of more matter, or the lessening it by ever so many divisions, makes no alteration in my *sameness*, so long as my consciousness remains: The former only encreasing my energy, by the accession of so much spirit as informed the additional matter, for we spirits embody ourselves entirely in commixtion, and resolve into one;

as the latter separates us again into distinct beings, to animate our separated bodies.

The first absolute owner to whom I belonged, was a native *Peruvian*, who had found means to purloin a considerable quantity of gold, part of which I was, and who presented me, as a peace-offering, to an ecclesiastick at confession.

I see you have a curiosity to know my sentiments on religious matters; but I have told you before, that I am not allowed to make revelations. Sufficient on this head have been already made to man, did not his perverseness distort them from their original perspicuity and perfection.

As there was something in the transactions which passed, when I was offered to this ecclesiastick, that may be new to you, I shall repeat some particulars of them.

You must have heard of the authority of the clergy, in all the countries which profess the religion of the *Roman pontiff*, and particularly those under the *Spanish* monarchy. Of all the several orders which compose this political *bierarchy*, those who call themselves THE COMPANIONS OF THEIR GOD, have acquired the greatest power.

Though this title may appear profanely great to you, yet they seem to support it
by

by the share which they assume, in some of his most sacred prerogatives.

To a reverend father, of this order, was I presented, on the festival called *Easter*. He was seated in a retired chamber of his temple, in the exercise of one of the functions of the deity, *bearing, and punishing, or forgiving sins*, according to his sovereign pleasure. It is not possible to give you *here* an idea of the solemnity of this ceremony, in a country where all religion is evaporated into shew. Be it sufficient to say, that the pageantry was such a mockery of the deity, as no other of his creatures, but *man*, would dare to commit.—The man who brought me into this mysterious fane, advanced with fear and trembling to the *apparent deity* of the place, and kneeling before him, confessed himself guilty of several heinous crimes, in the admission of involuntary thoughts, and indulgence of the appetites of nature, contrary to the rules laid down for him by his spiritual guide.—But this will be best explained by instances. The first crime which the penitent revealed, was having tasted a morsel of flesh on a day, when it was prohibited. The father, with a severe frown told him, ‘ that was a great
‘ sin, which he must atone for, by work-
‘ ing two days for the church, without hire,

‘ and abstaining from flesh, at the same
‘ time, though it was generally allowed.’

He next confessed, that he had beaten a dog belonging to a priest, which had broke into his hut, and eaten the pottage prepared for him, by which means he had been obliged to go to sleep without his supper.

At this, the priest knitting his brow into tenfold austerity, exclaimed, ‘ this is

‘ rebellion! rebellion against your God!

‘ Do you not know, that the dog of an ec-

‘ clesiastick, is above the greatest (even

‘ white) layman, much more a wicked

‘ native! you must make amends!—you

‘ must!—or’——The tone and gesture

with which he spoke these words, so terri-

fied the trembling wretch, that he instantly

put his hand into his bosom, and pulling

me out, presented me, to make his peace.

As soon as *I* appeared, the priest’s features

softened, the tone of his voice fell, and re-

ceiving me, with a gracious smile, ‘ You

‘ have not said (says he) that the master of

‘ the dog was a Jesuit! thy crime, there-

‘ fore, though great, may be forgiven!

‘ but beware for the future, and remember,

‘ that the world, and all in it, belongs to

‘ us; and that to be guilty of the least dis-

‘ obedience, even in thought, is treason,

‘ and deserves the severest punishment.

‘ Proceed!

‘ Proceed! unburthen your conscience! I
‘ know your thoughts, but would have
‘ you speak them, that I may prove your
‘ sincerity. Proceed! I am in haste!’

The penitent then went on—‘ O father,
‘ be merciful, and I will confess all! Re-
‘ turning from my labour one evening late,
‘ I found my door fastened, and no one
‘ answering when I called, I burst it in,
‘ when behold, I saw father *Ignatius* in the
‘ very act of carnality with my beloved
‘ wife *Mootaw*! I was amazed! and though
‘ fear prevented my striking him, I could
‘ not forbear thinking in my heart, that
‘ he who does those things, can be no
‘ god, he must be only *man*; and I cursed
‘ him in the bitterness of my soul; but he
‘ was drunk with wine, and did not hear
‘ me.’

‘ Wretch! devil! heretick! (exclaimed
‘ the father in a rage) thou intrude upon
‘ the privacy of a *Jesuit*! thou say, he was
‘ but a *man*! thou *think*, he could not know
‘ thy very thoughts, because he had drank
‘ wine! audacious slave! Art not thou,
‘ and thy wife his? had he not a right to
‘ to use his own? was it not an honour to
‘ thee, ungrateful wretch? and darest thou
‘ to *think a Jesuit is but a man*? But it
‘ is enough; the inquisition shall teach

‘ thee faith and obedience ; the inquisition
‘ ———’

At that tremendous word, the wretch, half dead with fear, fell at his feet, crying out, ‘ O father, O God, O king, forgive, ‘ forgive! (and pulling out of his bosom ‘ the rest of his gold) take this, O lord, ‘ from your poor slave, and forgive.—Take ‘ this, which I got at the peril of my life, ‘ and saved to buy the liberty of my dear ‘ child, whom my master took from me; ‘ take it, and forgive; let her still be a ‘ slave; let me never see her more! But ‘ O the inquisition! O forgive, forgive!’

The priest, mollified at the sight of the gold, replied, ‘ Thou knowest my compassion, but thou abusest it, and thy ‘ crimes are almost too great for mercy. ‘ In hope thou wilt amend, and transgress ‘ so no more, I will forgive thee now: but ‘ thou must be punished: Hast thou no ‘ more gold?’—‘ O, father, no more, no ‘ more! and this I saved to redeem my ‘ dear child: O let me get my child!’
‘ —*What! insolent! dost thou presume to capitulate? thou shalt be punished: Instead of ‘ getting back thy daughter, thou shalt bring ‘ me thy son, whom I saw yesterday, when I ‘ bade thee come to confession. The boy I blessed, and kissed upon my knee.*’—‘ O father, ‘ father,

‘ father, take all the gold, and let my
 ‘ daughter remain ; But spare my son ; he
 ‘ is too young, O father, too young for
 ‘ thee.’—‘ *The inquisition!*’—‘ O take him,
 ‘ father, take him, take all, but spare me ;
 ‘ I fly to bring my child to thee ; O spare
 ‘ me from the inquisition!’—‘ *’Tis well ;*
 ‘ *be comforted ; thy sins shall be forgiven ;*
 ‘ *perhaps, if thou behavest well, thy son may*
 ‘ *also be restored. I fear thou hast forgotten*
 ‘ *thy Christian faith ; let me hear thee repeat*
 ‘ *thy creed.*’—The man, somewhat reassured,
 to hear that he should escape the inquisition,
 and comforted with the hope of having his
 son restored, began thus—‘ I believe
 ‘ that God made the world, and all things
 ‘ in it, for my lords THE JESUITS ; and
 ‘ that I must worship him, by obeying
 ‘ them, and saying the prayers they direct
 ‘ me, to the saints, and the blessed virgin,
 ‘ the mother of God, and above all, to
 ‘ the great saint IGNATIUS LOYOLA. But
 ‘ if I disobey their commands in any thing,
 ‘ or repine at their service, or think, that I
 ‘ must obey the *viceroi* before them, I shall
 ‘ be burned to death in the inquisition *here,*
 ‘ and the great devil will burn me for
 ‘ ever, after I am dead.’—‘ Well, son,
 ‘ *remember and practise thy creed, and thy sins*
 ‘ *shall*

' shall be forgiven thee : Go and bring the boy
' when it is dark.'

* * * * *

C H A P. VIII.

The holy father's tenderness to another penitent, who had ravished, murdered, and robbed his own brother's wife. He accepts the spoils as a recompence to the church. He hints a method of preventing the danger of his brother's resentment, and dismisses him with ghostly advice.

THE severity with which the Jesuit required satisfaction for the imaginary faults of the poor *Peruvian*, may, perhaps, lead you to think, that his zeal would be inexorable to real crimes ; but the following account will shew you, that it was no such thing, and that he looked upon nothing as a crime, which was not detrimental to the power, or temporal interest, of his society.—The next penitent who approached the *mercy-seat*, was a commander in the army. He advanced with a military intrepidity, and kneeling down in form, Father (said he) I have a long reckoning to make, and some of the articles are rather heavy.

heavy. My son (replied the priest) you have had experience of the indulgence of the church, and that no crimes are too black for her mercy, on *proper* penitence. Proceed then, and open your wounds to your physician; nor fear the efficacy of his medicines.

‘ You know then, Father (said the penitent) that I have long burned with a passion for the wife of my brother the judge. It was the subject of my last confession.’—
‘ I remember it right well (replied the father) and you may remember also what ghostly, yet comfortable advice I gave you, to strive against and suppress it, if you could.’—‘ True, father; but I told you then, that I knew it would be in vain for me to strive, as I was resolved to enjoy her, though at the hazard of my life.’—‘ But, son, did I not comfort you, by saying, that if you found it in vain to strive, and could not live without her, as life was the greatest good, in this world, it was just that you should preserve yours, by obtaining what you were so violently set upon, but always to be careful that you conducted matters so, as not to give offence by your success.’—‘ Ah! but father, that was not in my power: She was deaf to all my entreaties; and that threw

‘ me into such despair, that, not able to wait
‘ any longer, I have this very morning had
‘ recourse to force.’—‘ That was really bad,
‘ if it could have been avoided; but, as
‘ you would not have forced her, if she
‘ would have complied willingly, that al-
‘ ters the case very much in your favour,
‘ and perhaps she put you to that trouble,
‘ only to save the appearance of her own
‘ virtue, and if so, you have both acted
‘ right, and there is no harm done, pro-
‘ vided the affair is not disclosed.’

‘ O, father, that is the thing; I was
‘ afraid of that; and as her husband had
‘ always been a father to me, and all my
‘ future hopes depended on him, I so
‘ greatly dreaded her telling him, that, to
‘ prevent it, as soon as I had enjoyed her,
‘ I cut her throat.’

‘ Murder! O fie; it is an heinous crime:
‘ blood calls for blood: your case is terri-
‘ ble.’—‘ I feared so, father; but I de-
‘ pended on your tenderness; and as I did
‘ not think it reasonable, that I should
‘ have all the pleasure of the crime, and
‘ you only the trouble of forgiving, I
‘ I stripped her of *these* jewels, which give
‘ me leave to offer you.’

‘ You are a prudent man, my son; I
‘ thought you would act with discretion.

‘ I

‘ I accept the jewels, as a peace-offering to
‘ the *holy church*, for your sins ; and as the
‘ value of them (indeed they are costly
‘ gems) proves the sincerity of your repen-
‘ tance, I shall not hesitate to pronounce
‘ your sins forgiven.

‘ For though adultery is a great sin, and,
‘ in this case, aggravated by rape and in-
‘ cest, yet, as you say, it was not because
‘ she was the wife of another man, and
‘ especially your brother, that you desired
‘ her, but merely as she was a beautiful
‘ woman, therefore the adultery and incest
‘ come in but by *accident* ; and then, as you
‘ ravished her only because she would not
‘ comply, the sin of the rape is certainly her’s,
‘ as I said before ; for, if I force a man to
‘ commit a crime, I am guilty of that
‘ crime, and not he : And again, though
‘ murder is a most heinous sin, yet as you
‘ killed her, not merely to indulge a mur-
‘ derous intent, but to prevent her disco-
‘ vering your having forced her, and so
‘ ruining you, the intention quite alters the
‘ nature of the fact, and makes it but self-
‘ preservation, which is the first law of na-
‘ ture. And lastly, as you took the jewels,
‘ not with a design to rob her, but to offer
‘ them to the *church*, and accordingly have
‘ brought them, that conclusion sanctifies

‘ the whole action, and makes your peace
 ‘ with heaven.

‘ For know, my son, that crimes which
 ‘ respect *man only*, as in your case, rape,
 ‘ adultery, incest, murder, and robbery,
 ‘ though bad in themselves, ’tis true, yet
 ‘ are a pleasure to the church to forgive, to
 ‘ a faithful and penitent son, *who believes*
 ‘ *all her doctrines, and pays due obedience to*
 ‘ *her clergy, the vicegerents of God on earth,*
 ‘ *the receivers of her revenues, and dispensers*
 ‘ *of her favours, and vengeance; to whom all*
 ‘ *earthly power is subservient, who are the*
 ‘ *kings of kings, and lords of the world.*—
 ‘ This, my son, is the doctrine of our holy
 ‘ church, as delivered by the most learned
 ‘ fathers of our order, in the belief of which
 ‘ you will be safe from all the powers of
 ‘ hell: do what you will, while you pay
 ‘ faith and obedience to the church, she
 ‘ will pardon all your sins.’—

When he had concluded his instructions,
 with this pious exhortation, and sealed his
 absolution with a blessing, the purified
 saint arose, and said, ‘ Holy father, thou
 ‘ hast set my soul at ease, with regard to
 ‘ *hereafter*, but still I fear for this world.
 ‘ It unfortunately happened, that I was
 ‘ seen in the fact by a servant who escaped
 ‘ me, or I should have charmed her silence
 ‘ too;

‘ too ; and now I apprehend she will in-
‘ form my brother.’—‘ This is unlucky,
‘ most unlucky (replied the priest) I know
‘ not what to advise ; I am utterly at a
‘ loss : If you should prevent her malice,
‘ and accuse her of the fact.’—‘ O, but fa-
‘ ther, the rape ; there may be appearances
‘ of that, which would disprove my charge
‘ against a woman.’—‘ Mistake me not,
‘ my son, I did not advise any such thing !
‘ heaven forbid that I should advise to bear
‘ false witness against an innocent life ; I
‘ am utterly at a loss.’—‘ Suppose, father,
‘ I should still strive to prevent my fears,
‘ by taking off my brother, as I cannot
‘ find her : this is the only way to make
‘ me easy ; ha, father ; is not that an hap-
‘ py thought ; I wish it had occurred
‘ sooner, and then I should have given you
‘ but the one trouble.’—‘ Why, truly, son,
‘ the dead neither make nor receive disco-
‘ veries ; and self-preservation will certainly
‘ justify any thing, as I have said before :
‘ but I must not advise you, your own ge-
‘ nius is ready, and can improve an hint ;
‘ I must know nothing, till the affair is
‘ done : all I can say, is, that work unfi-
‘ nished had better never have been be-
‘ gun.

‘ Adieu, my son, my blessing waits on
 ‘ all your undertakings. But be sure to
 ‘ hold the indulgent mercy of the church in
 ‘ grateful remembrance.’

The officer went away, happy in having lightened the burthen that was upon his conscience, and big with the pious project of making the murder of his brother the first-fruits of his regeneration. He was the last *penitent* of that morning, and as soon as he was gone, his ghostly director retired to mortify his appetites in the refectory of the convent.



C H A P. IX.

The father's rage on hearing that his penitent had secreted some of the jewels. The officer is pursued by his brother to the convent, whither he flies for sanctuary. His reception from the father, and the terms of their reconciliation. The father sends away the judge in a fright. The officer is received into the society.

THE honours of this world may be said to be placed upon an hill, the ascent to which is through different paths, the

the one, which virtue leads through, difficult and long, but certain; the other short and easy, but dangerous and deceitful, yet still by much the most frequented, vice, the guide through it, using all her allurements to decoy unwary adventurers, and magnifying every instance of success so highly, as to make the numberless miscarriages overlooked.

The great value of the jewels, which the officer had presented to my master, took up so much of his thoughts, that as soon as he had finished his collation, he retired to his cell, to meditate on the farther advantages he might make of this affair.

While he was in this pleasing employment, another ecclesiastick entered, to acquaint him with the murder and robbery of the judge's wife, and among other particulars of the story, said, that her crucifix, thought to be the richest in *lay possession* in all *Peru*, had been taken from her. — ‘That crucifix!’ exclaimed my master starting, for he knew it well, and had long paid his devotions to it, and now to be *cheated* thus of it, when he thought it so *justly* his due, provoked him almost to madness) ‘That crucifix taken too! Damned! murderous! deceitful
“ vil-

‘ villain! villain, on all sides! But I
 ‘ will be revenged!’—

The other priest understood not what he meant, and was just going to enquire, when in rushed the captain, all aghast.
 ‘ O father! father! (said he, as soon as he
 ‘ could speak) sanctuary! sanctuary! my
 ‘ brother is at the gate, with all the offi-
 ‘ cers of justice!’ — At this the father
 grin’d an insulting smile, and beckoning to the other priest to withdraw, ‘ Wretch,
 ‘ (said he) thou sacrilegious wretch! how
 ‘ could’st thou dare to enter these holy
 ‘ walls, violated by thy guilt? Did’st thou
 ‘ not fear the fate of *Ananias* and *Sapphira*?
 ‘ —As thou did’st deceive me, with thy
 ‘ feigned penitence, and hast lied to the
 ‘ Lord, in concealing what thou had’st
 ‘ most justly devoted to him, I revoke the
 ‘ absolution I gave thee, and will deliver
 ‘ thee to justice, to receive the punishment
 ‘ due to thy crimes. These holy walls af-
 ‘ ford no sanctuary to sacrilege!’ —

The poor criminal stood confounded at reproaches, which he dared not interrupt, though he could not comprehend the cause or meaning of them. At length, when the priest had exclaimed himself out of breath, the trembling wretch replied, ‘ O
 ‘ father! what can have kindled thy wrath
 ‘ against

‘ against me? I have committed no crime,
‘ since thy absolution purged my soul! I
‘ was only going towards my brother’s
‘ house, when I met him, and the servant
‘ with him, with all the officers of justice,
‘ in search of me, on which I fled directly to
‘ you for sanctuary.’ ‘I grant no sanctuary
‘ to sacrilege.’ — ‘What sacrilege, O
‘ father?’ — ‘The crucifix, deceitful wretch!
‘ Where is thy sister’s crucifix? Hast thou
‘ not defrauded the church of her due?
‘ Did’st thou not say, that thou tookedst
‘ thy sister’s jewels, only to make a peace-
‘ offering for thy sins, and then to secrete,
‘ thus, the most valuable part of them!
‘ *This is defrauding the labourer of his hire!*
‘ This is defrauding the church of her
‘ rites, without making the proper com-
‘ pensation! And what can be greater
‘ sacrilege?’

Just at these words, a knocking at the gate awoke the *penitent* from his amaze, and made him apprehend that he had not a minute to lose; he therefore, with the readiest presence of mind replied, — ‘The crucifix, father! you astonish me! did I not give it to you?’ — And then putting his hand into his bosom, and pulling it out with a look of surprize, he reached it to him. — ‘Forgive, O father (said he)
‘ the

‘ the crime of inadvertency; I meant not
 ‘ to have kept it from you, but only over-
 ‘ looked it, in my confusion! accept it!
 ‘ accept all I am master of, and save my
 ‘ life.’

‘ Son (replied the father, softening his
 ‘ voice, and taking the crucifix) I am
 ‘ glad thou wast not *intentionally* guilty of
 ‘ so unpardonable an offence! I believe,
 ‘ and accept thy excuse. Be comforted,
 ‘ therefore, my son, thy sins are forgiven.’
 ‘ O but father, the officers of justice.’—
 ‘ What officers! what justice dares attempt
 ‘ to shew her face within these walls? Thou
 ‘ art *my* penitent, I have absolved thee,
 ‘ and I will defend thee. Sit down, and
 ‘ compose thy spirits, while I repel this
 ‘ bold intrusion, on the peace and privi-
 ‘ ledge of these holy walls.’

Saying thus, the father went to the gate
 of the convent, where stood the judge, dis-
 playing the guilt of the fugitive to the holy
 fathers, to engage them to refuse him sanc-
 tuary, and give him up to justice. But my
 master soon stopped him. ‘ Cease (said he,
 ‘ with a low voice, and downcast, medita-
 ‘ tive look) disturb not the peace of these
 ‘ holy walls. The man you seek is *my*
 ‘ penitent. He has made satisfaction to
 ‘ the church, and reconciled himself to
 ‘ heaven.

‘ heaven. I come this moment from giving him the seal of absolution. Disturb not the raptures of his soul, that is now joining with the angelick choirs, in the hymns of joy raised in heaven for his repentance. Depart in peace.’

‘ How father (exclaimed the judge) can a wretch, guilty of such crimes, so soon have made his peace! He has deceived you, father; he has not told you half his guilt: rape, incest, adultery, and murder! Can *they* be thus forgiven? So easy pardons but encourage vice.’—‘ And who art thou, presumptuous man! (replied the father, raising his voice, and putting on an air of authority) and who art thou, that darest thus to call the power of God’s holy church in question? What faith, or rather what heresy has taught thee this presumption? Dost thou measure the divine authority of our unerring tribunal by the weak rules of thy blind law? Are not the keys of heaven ours; and have we not the power to loose as well as bind? But I shall not argue more with thee *here*; there is a tribunal proper for such *opinions* as thine; there try if thy knowledge of the laws will justify thy heresies; there thou art not judge.’

‘ The

The first mention of heresy had struck such a terrour into the heart of the poor judge, that he was for some moments unable to reply. At last, recollecting himself a little, ‘ I submit, O father, (said he) ‘ I am no heretick ; I have no *opinions* but ‘ what I learn from the holy church whose ‘ power I acknowledge in all its divine ‘ plenitude.’——‘ ’Tis well, (replied the ‘ priest) ’tis well ; depart in peace, and ‘ to morrow I will visit thee, and examine ‘ the state of thy conscience.’

The judge then making a profound reverence, withdrew without a murmur, and the triumphant father returned to his penitent. ‘ My son (said he) thine enemies ‘ are defeated. Thy rest is secure *here*. ‘ But such is their power, and so strong the ‘ general abhorrence that pursues thy *late* ‘ guilt, that it will not be safe for thee ‘ ever to leave this sanctuary.’——‘ O father, ‘ must I be confined for ever here ?’——‘ I ‘ said not so, my son: there is a way for ‘ thee to go in triumph out, above the ‘ power of thy present persecutors.’—— ‘ O name it, father.’——‘ Take our ‘ vows. Heaven has blessed thee with a ‘ fertile genius, and steel’d thy soul with ‘ fortitude. These talents must not be ‘ buried, an account will be required of ‘ them ;

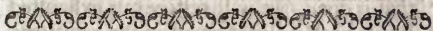
‘ them ; and where can they be put to pro-
‘ per use, except in the service of the do-
‘ nor, in his church ; there they will raise
‘ thee to that rank and power, which thou
‘ feest us enjoy. I see thou yieldest. Re-
‘ sist not the motions of the holy spirit. I
‘ receive thee into the fold. I salute thee,
‘ brother. From this moment of thine
‘ election may’st thou date thy entrance
‘ into the highest honours of this world.
‘ The day approaches, when thy military
‘ knowledge and valour may also be called
‘ into practice. Great events are ripening
‘ in the womb of time !’ — ‘ I yield, O
‘ father, (replied the penitent) I receive
‘ thine offer with due submission and re-
‘ spect. And from this moment dedicate
‘ my valour, skill, and every power of my
‘ soul and body, to the implicit service of
‘ thine holy order.’ — ‘ It is the hand
‘ of heaven that leads thee, no longer son,
‘ but brother. I will go and acquaint our
‘ brethren with thy *miraculous* conversion
‘ and election. Thou hast no more to do
‘ but to make thy will, and bequeath all
‘ thy wealth to our order.’ — ‘ *Bequeath,*
‘ my father, must I die ?’ — ‘ But to
‘ the world, brother, to live with us.’ —
‘ But I have nothing to bequeath.’ —
‘ Leave that to us. Do you only give all
‘ your

‘ your fortune, in the hands of your bro-
 ‘ ther, to our society, in consequence of
 ‘ your admission; and let us find that for-
 ‘ tune. I go. The bell rings for *vespers*.
 ‘ I shall send our notary to you; and when
 ‘ that is done, we will restore our exhausted
 ‘ spirits with a slight repast in the refectory,
 ‘ where I will introduce thee to our bre-
 ‘ thren.’

In a word, all things were executed, and
 the new brother admitted in proper time
 into the order, of which he has since risen
 to be one of the brightest ornaments. And
 the judge, to avoid the imputation of he-
 resy, which his *implied* doubt of the church’s
 sanctuary had given my master the hint of,
 was glad to pay half his wealth to the so-
 ciety, as the fortune of his pious brother.

Soon after this affair was thus happily
 compleated, my master, that he might
 openly shew his adoration of *me* to the
 world, had me made into a crucifix, in
 which shape I was fastened to his *rosary*,
 and there publickly received that adoration
 from the knee, which before was paid me
 only in the heart. ——— A repetition of all
 the occurrences I saw in the service of this
 master were unnecessary, as the two I have
 related give a general idea of them, all
 tending to the gratification of his ruling
 passions

passions of revenge, lust, and avarice, with the variation only of accidental circumstances, according to the difference of their objects.



C H A P. X.

CHRYSAL changes his service, and embarks for Europe in an English man of war. The cause and manner of his coming that way. The occurrences of his passage. On his arrival in England he is sent by his master to settle some mistakes in the voyage.

I Was heartily sick of such a scene, when the time came for sending me into these parts of the world, where scarcity enhances my value, and makes my power more extensive. There being a war between Spain and England at that time, about a liberty of cutting sticks upon a desert shore, it was necessary to secure a safe passage for the treasure, by establishing a right understanding with the commander of an English man of war, which was cruizing in those seas. It fell to my lot to go on this errand in the shape of a *doubloon*, into which I was cast,

cast, to save the profanation which a crucifix must suffer in the hands of hereticks.

There was some little address requisite to conduct this affair with the captain, in such a manner as to keep it secret from his officers, to gain all of whom would have been too expensive, beside that he would never trust his *sacred* honour to the *fidelity* of so many. But this was readily adjusted. The refinements of modern politeness having softened the natural ferocity of a state of war, and admitting an intercourse of courtesy between parties who profess to seek each other's destruction, the *Spanish* governor sent out a boat, with his compliments to the *English* captain, with a large supply of fresh provisions, fruits, wine, &c.

This necessarily produced a return of civility from the well-bred captain; and in this intercourse were the terms of his connivance settled, as the seal of which *I* was delivered to him, among a very large number of my fellows, who honourably punctual to his promise, at the appointed time, sailed away from that station, *in quest of some ships of the enemy's which he expected to meet elsewhere*, and did not return till the *Spanish* treasure was beyond his reach.

As this was a compliment of great consequence to the *Spaniards*, the captain had been

been so handsomely considered for it, that his desires were satisfied, and he only wish'd to be safe at home, to enjoy the wealth he had so happily acquired. Often would he take me out, for the beauty of my new impression had struck his eye, and gained me the honour of being kept in his purse, often, I say, would he take me out of his purse, and gazing on me till his eyes watered, ' O thou end of all my toils and dangers !
' (would he say) thou crown of all my
' hopes ! now I have obtained thee I am
' content ! Let others seek that phantom
' glory, I have in thee the more solid re-
' ward, for which I always fought, nor
' shall any thing tempt me to hazard being
' separated from thee.' A resolution which he had an opportunity of shewing in all its strength a few days after, when a ship appeared which he thought to be a *Spanish* man of war.

As ours was a ship of force, and all the officers (except the captain now) were very poor ; and as the *Spanish* ships are always richly laden with treasure in those seas, the crew was in the highest spirits at this sight, and made every thing ready to attack her, with the most eager alacrity. But the case was quite different with the captain. He was *now* as rich as he desired, and dreaded the

the loss of that wealth which he had so long laboured for. He, therefore, retired into his cabin, while the lieutenants were *clearing ship*, and taking *me* out of his purse, with a look of tenderness that brought the tears into his eyes, ‘ And shall I hazard the
 ‘ loss of thee, (he cried) the object, the
 ‘ reward of a life of toil and danger? Shall
 ‘ I sacrifice the only real good of life, to
 ‘ that chimera, honour? to that bubble
 ‘ lighter than air, and more variable than
 ‘ the wind, the interest of my country?
 ‘ What is honour without wealth? What
 ‘ is a country to him who has nothing in
 ‘ it? Let the poor fight for money, I
 ‘ have enough: let the ambitious fight for
 ‘ glory, I despise the empty name. Let
 ‘ those who have a property in their coun-
 ‘ try fight for it, I have none, nor can
 ‘ have, nor any of its blessings, without
 ‘ thee; and therefore will not venture
 ‘ thy loss for any such vain considera-
 ‘ tions.’

As soon as he had formed this prudent resolution, he clasped *me* to his heart, kissed me, and returned me into his purse, just as the lieutenant came in, to tell him, they could now *make* the ship, which must be vastly rich, she was so deep in the water. My master made no reply, but taking a tele-

scope in his hand, he went upon the quarter-deck, and viewing her for some time, with great apparent earnestness, ‘ You are all mistaken (said he) in that ship! rich indeed! and so she may remain for us. That ship is a first-rate man of war by her size: and as for her depth in the water, she is only brought down by her guns which are fifty-two pounders at least. Put about the ship, and make all sail possible from her. I am answerable for his majesty’s ship, committed to my care, and will not sacrifice her against such odds. Her weight of metal would blow us out of the water. Beside, I have a packet on board, and must not go out of my way: about ship, and away directly, I say.’

The officers stood aghast at this speech, that disappointed all their golden hopes. They urged, they beseeched, they remonstrated, that it was impossible she could be what he said: they insisted that the colour of her sails, and the heaviness of her going, proved her to be a ship of trade that had been long at sea; and as for her bulk, it only encouraged them to hope she would prove the better prize, as all the ships that carry the treasure are very large; that they had observed they wronged her so much,

they could go round her if they pleased; and begg'd only that they might be permitted to take a nearer view of her; which they were confident would prove her to be what they said. They alledged the opportunity of making all their fortunes; the honour, the interest of their country. They begged, swore, stormed, and wept; but all in vain. The captain had taken his resolution; and would vouchsafe no other answer than a repetition of what he had said before, 'that *he* was accountable for
' his majesty's ship, and would not hazard
' her, to gratify them: beside, the delay of
' the packet he had on board, might be of
' worse consequence than the taking of
' such a ship, should she even be what they
' said, though he was *certain* to the con-
' trary, would make amends for. And
' that, as to going nearer to her, the length
' of her guns would enable them to drive
' every shot through and through his ship,
' at a distance that his could never reach
' her from; though if they should be mad
' enough to engage her, his *small* shot
' could never pierce such mountains of
' timber as her sides were barricaded with.'

And so, as his power was absolute, they were obliged to submit, and *off he sheer'd.*

It

It is impossible to describe the distraction which this affair threw our ship into. The officers acted all the inconsistent outrages of madness. The men chewed the *quid*, damned their eyes and limbs for their bad luck, and went to work as usual; while several poor sick wretches, whose spirits had been so raised by the hopes of such a prize, that they had forgot their complaints, and exerted all their strength, to assist in the engagement, now sunk under the weight of the disappointment, and crawled back, many of them to die in their hammocks.

But the captain had carried his point, and regarded nothing else: though indeed he was somewhat disconcerted a few days after, when he learned from another ship, that she really was a register ship of immense value, and so weakened by hard weather and sickness, that she could not have attempted any resistance, but had prepared to *strike* the moment she saw us. This information added such fuel to the rage that inflamed the officers before, that all intercourse between them and their captain was intirely broke of, so that *I* became his sole companion.

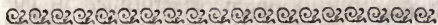
This lasted all the while we were at a distance from *England*, but as we drew near home, the captain's stiffness began to bend,

and he made several advances to a reconciliation and general amnesty, as he could not but feel some apprehensions for his conduct from his superiors. But all was in vain. The thought of returning in poverty, instead of that wealth which he had disappointed them of, kept up their resentments, and they determined to complain, if only for the satisfaction of revenge.

This convinced my master, that methods must be taken to obviate their attempts, or he might run a greater hazard at home than he had intended to avoid abroad. He therefore prudently concluded, that the same argument which had been so powerful with himself, would be the most effectual to vindicate what he had done with others, and that it would be better to share the spoil, than risk the loss of all.

For this intent, as soon as he arrived in England, he took *me* from his purse once more, and looking earnestly at me for some moments, ‘ We must part (said he, with a
‘ sigh) we must part! but I hope to good
‘ purpose. Thou only wast the cause of
‘ that conduct which now gives me fear ;
‘ exert therefore thy influence equally,
‘ where I now send thee, and thou wilt ex-
‘ cuse my fault, if it is one.’ Tears, at
the thought of losing me, here choaked his

utterance. He gave me a last kiss, and sent me directly away, in company with a considerable number more, to mediate his peace.



C H A P. XI.

The good consequences of a right understanding between certain persons. CHRYSAL'S reflections on his first seeing the publick offices in London. His master visits a gentleman, who, in the vehemence of his rage against certain abuses, hits himself a violent slap on the face. The necessity of decency, and the methods of supporting it, instanced in the history of a pretty fellow.

AS the delicate nature of this transaction required some address, he entrusted the management of it to his purser, who had convinced him, by many instances, of his sagacity in the methods of obtaining an influence over the great.

As soon as my new master arrived in London, his first care was to execute the commission for which *we* had been given to him; but the person, to whom his application was to be made, happening to be

out of town for a few days, that he might not lose any time, he proceeded to settle some affairs of his own; in the course of which, I had an opportunity of seeing into some part of the secrets of his mysterious business.

The professed motive for his coming to town, was to settle his own, and pass his captain's accounts, between which there was a connection not necessary to be known to any other; for though my late master did not think it consistent with his dignity to be too familiar with his officers, and generally slighted their opinion, if only to shew his own superiority and keep them at a proper distance, with him and his purser the case was quite otherwise, the best understanding always subsisting between them, and every affair being concerted with the greatest harmony, to their mutual advantage: an agreement, which beside the comfort and convenience of it to themselves, had this happy influence over the rest of the ship's company, that it kept them, if not easy, at least quiet, from all murmurings, and complaints of bad provisions, short weights, and such like *imaginary* grievances, which the restless temper of seamen is too apt to make the cause of much trouble to the purser, and disturbance to the captain, when these

these happen not to agree between themselves. But as the contrary was the case here, their common interest animated the assiduity of my master, and made him go directly to the several offices and contractors, with whom his business lay, to prepare every thing in proper order for publick inspection.

On my first going to these publick offices, every thing gave me pleasure. There was such an appearance of regularity in all the proceedings, of ease and affluence in the officers, that I could not help saying to myself, ‘happy state, whose meanest servants are gentlemen! whose business is reduced to a system, above danger of confusion or abuse!’ But a nearer view shewed things in another light. The first person my master went to, was the gentleman who supplied him with those kinds of cloathing for the seamen, which are by these merry poor fellows emphatically called *slops*. As he was just going to dinner, my master accepted of his invitation, and sat down with him. A round or two of loyal toasts, to the success of the navy, and continuance of the war, having washed down their fare, and refreshed their spirits after the fatigue of a full meal, they proceeded to business. ‘I come, Sir (said my master) to settle the account of the last cruize.

‘ Here it is: you see most of the articles
‘ have gone off pretty well: but I must
‘ tell you, that you are more obliged to
‘ some of your friends for that, than you
‘ are aware of perhaps; for if I had not
‘ prevailed on the captain, to let the ale-
‘ house-keepers, and gin-women come on
‘ board, and keep the sloop-sellers off, when
‘ the men received their pay, on going
‘ out, you would have had but a blank list
‘ of it. But, by this management, the
‘ fellows spent all their money in drink,
‘ and then necessity drove them to me for
‘ cloths.’

‘ Here is to the captain’s good health
‘ (answered the other) and that I may soon
‘ see him at the head of the navy: I am
‘ very much obliged to you and him, and
‘ shall consider your friendship properly.
‘ But is there no way of preventing those
‘ pedlars from intruding thus upon us? I
‘ am resolved I will try: I believe I can
‘ make an Interest, (you understand me)
‘ that will procure me an order to exclude
‘ them: at least, if I cannot do that, I
‘ will insist on raising my terms; for every
‘ branch of business is now so loaded with
‘ presents and perquisites, that there is
‘ scarce any thing to be got. A man who
‘ goes to a public office, to receive money,
‘ runs

‘ runs the gauntlet through so many of
‘ them, that if he does not make up his
‘ accounts, in a very masterly manner in-
‘ deed, he will have but little to shew, for
‘ his pains, in the end.’—‘ Very true (re-
‘ plied my master) I have had experience
‘ of what you say, this very morning.
‘ You know it is some years since I have
‘ been in town before : I was therefore
‘ quite surprized at the gay appearance of
‘ every clerk, in the offices. Our mid-
‘ shipmen, on the paying off of a ship, are
‘ nothing to them : So! thought I to my-
‘ self : this is very well ! Such fine gentle-
‘ men as these will never stoop to take the
‘ little perquisites which their shabby pre-
‘ decessors were so eager for : They can-
‘ not want them. Accordingly, as soon
‘ as I had done my business, I was prepa-
‘ ring to make an handsome speech, and
‘ a leg, and so walk off ; but I was soon
‘ undeceived ; and found, to my no small
‘ astonishment, that if the case was altered,
‘ it was no way for the better, for me ; the
‘ present fine gentlemen being to the full
‘ as rapacious as the former poor fellows,
‘ and with this addition to the evil, that
‘ their expectations were raised, in propor-
‘ tion to their appearance, so that they

‘ must have a crown, where the others
‘ were satisfied with a shilling.

‘ And how can it be otherwise (returned
‘ the other) while the principals set them
‘ such an example of extravagance, and
‘ inforce obedience to it in the manner they
‘ do : for though their own exorbitant sa-
‘ laries enable them to live with the luxury
‘ of aldermen at home, and make the ap-
‘ pearance of courtiers abroad, how can
‘ they think, that their hackney under-
‘ lings shall be able to change their dress,
‘ with the court, and appear with all the
‘ precise foppery of pretty fellows, if they
‘ have not clandestine ways of getting mo-
‘ ney : and that this is the case, I can give
‘ you an instance not to be contradicted.

‘ Perhaps you may remember a little
‘ boy, that ran about the house here,
‘ when you were in town last. His mo-
‘ ther was servant to my first wife : you
‘ cannot forget black-ey’d Nan : who was
‘ the father is nothing to my story, but I
‘ took care of the boy. When he grew up,
‘ I thought the best thing I could do for
‘ him, was to get him into one of the pub-
‘ lic offices, for he was too soft for my own
‘ business, and this I imagined would shar-
‘ pen him, and 50*l.* a year keep him from
‘ being an expence to me. Accordingly,

‘ I got him admitted as an additional
‘ clerk, in this busy time; and that his
‘ appearance should not shame my recom-
‘ mendation, I added a London-made suit
‘ to his country wardrobe, which I thought
‘ good enough for him, to wear every
‘ day.

‘ Well; thus equipped, to the office he
‘ went, as good-looking a lad as ever came
‘ from a 12*l.* a year academy in Yorkshire,
‘ which had been the height of his educa-
‘ tion. But I soon found that I had been
‘ out in my reckoning, for going with him
‘ to introduce him to the head-clerk, whom
‘ I had before spoken properly to, in his
‘ behalf, I found the whole office in deep
‘ mourning, which, as it had been ordered
‘ only for the court, and was to hold but for
‘ a fortnight longer, I had never thought of
‘ dressing him in; but I soon found that I
‘ had not a proper opinion of the conse-
‘ quence of the place.—For the head clerk
‘ gave me a friendly hint, that it was ex-
‘ pected, that all the clerks in his majesty’s
‘ offices, should shew the decent respect of
‘ conforming to the dress of the court, on
‘ these solemn occasions.—I could not help
‘ exclaiming, I believe a little too shortly,
‘ What, Sir! upon a salary of 50*l.* a year?
‘ —Sir (replied he) no body is forced to

' take that salary; and they who do not
 ' like the rules of the office, are at liberty
 ' to leave it: and then turned off upon his
 ' heel.—' I beg your pardon, Sir (said I,
 ' seeing my error) it was an oversight of
 ' mine; but it shall be amended.'—' The
 ' sooner the better, Sir (answered he) for
 ' his lordship will be in the office to-morrow,
 ' and he must not see any thing so irregular;
 ' and pray sir (turning to the lad) get that
 ' fleece on your head shorn a little (his hair
 ' hung down, in modest ringlets, upon his
 ' shoulders) and strive to appear something
 ' like a gentleman.

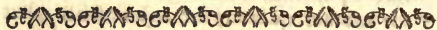
' I saw it was in vain to say any thing,
 ' and so took the boy away with me; and
 ' by noon, next day, brought him again,
 ' in all the fashionable trappings of woe,
 ' and with his hair shorn indeed, and tied
 ' up in a bag, by a French barber, for I
 ' would not stand for a trifle when my hand
 ' was in, desirous to see how he would be
 ' received in his new appearance; but alas!
 ' I had forgot that indispensable article of a
 ' gentleman's dress, a sword, which I was
 ' therefore obliged to send out for directly.
 ' In a fortnight's time, the order for the
 ' court's going into second mourning, put
 ' me to the same expence over again; for
 ' the rules of decency were not to be dis-
 ' pensed

‘ pensed with; and then, in a month after,
‘ it was as necessary to trim his light grey
‘ frock with a silver edging of coxcombe,
‘ that he might not appear worse than his
‘ fellows; all which, with many other
‘ as necessary *et cetera*’s, by the end of the
‘ first quarter, consumed his year’s sa-
‘ lary.

‘ This enraged me to that degree, that
‘ I was going to take him away directly; but
‘ the boy had by this time, got some insight
‘ into the ways of the place, and prevented
‘ me, by saying, that if I would try, but
‘ for another quarter, he was satisfied that
‘ his perquisites would more than defray
‘ all such expences; and so I find they do,
‘ for though he is now as smart well-dressed
‘ a young fellow as any about town, he has
‘ never since troubled me for a shilling:
‘ nay, more than all this, he assures me,
‘ there are some of his fellow clerks who
‘ keep footmen and horses, and have routs
‘ and concerts at their houses, as regularly
‘ as people of the first rank; and all by the
‘ perquisites of a place of fifty pounds a
‘ year.

‘ Now as all those perquisites are draw-
‘ backs upon us, as I said before, we can-
‘ not carry on the business on the usual
‘ terms, if we do not bring up our loss in
‘ the

‘ the quality of the goods, for it would be
 ‘ absurd to expect, that we should lower our
 ‘ living to let such fellows run away with the
 ‘ profit of our industry. In short, my wife’s
 ‘ chariot shall not be put down, nor will I
 ‘ deny myself a bottle of claret to give you,
 ‘ or any other friend, to save all the seamen
 ‘ in Britain from perishing with cold: Cha-
 ‘ rity begins at home; I will insist upon
 ‘ having those pedlars prevented from inter-
 ‘ loping upon our trade, and so, Sir, my
 ‘ service to you.’



C H A P. XII.

*CHRYSAL's master gives his friend some hints,
 that make him lower his note. An uncom-
 mon piece of generosity returned more politely,
 than could be expected from the parties. An
 odd story of an unfashionable steward. The
 success of CHRYSAL's mediation in favour of
 his late master.*

MY master had heard him out, though
 not with the greatest patience, and
 now taking the opportunity of his stop-
 ping to drink, ‘ All this may be true (said
 ‘ he) and what you propose might possibly
 ‘ have

‘ have been done, and with the effect you
‘ desire, some time ago : but matters are
‘ altered a good deal, at present, both a-
‘ mong the gentlemen of the navy, and
‘ here to, as I am told : and indeed, in
‘ respect to this affair, those things are
‘ made so infamously bad, and rated so
‘ high, that no body can speak in the de-
‘ fence of them : nay, it even goes almost
‘ against my own conscience to *utter* them ;
‘ for only think with yourself, what a bare-
‘ faced imposition it is, to make a poor
‘ wretch pay seven shillings for a course
‘ rotten jacket, when even a Jew shall sell
‘ him a sound one, and of finer stuff, for
‘ four and sixpence ; and every thing else
‘ at the same rate. In short, this point is
‘ so overstrained, that it will probably over-
‘ turn the whole trade, in the end ; for se-
‘ veral of the captains are so provoked at
‘ it, that they take every method they can,
‘ to prevent the men from taking up any
‘ thing from us ; particularly, that which I
‘ hinted before, of keeping off the alehouse-
‘ keepers, and such people, and encoura-
‘ ging sloop-sellers to come on board, when
‘ the men are paying, by which means
‘ they buy good comfortable cloaths, at
‘ half the price of our rotten trash : Indeed,
‘ one of them went so far, as to buy in a
‘ parcel

‘ parcel of good shoes, at his own expence,
 ‘ and make a present of a pair a-piece to
 ‘ all his *top-men*, when they were going
 ‘ out on a cruize, as they had spent their
 ‘ money, and could not buy for ourselves,
 ‘ and our shoes were so bad, that the first
 ‘ time they went aloft with them, after
 ‘ they were wet, the rattlings tore them all
 ‘ to pieces, so that it was a common thing
 ‘ to see a man come down bare-footed,
 ‘ who had gone up with a new pair of shoes
 ‘ on. Though it is but just to comfort you,
 ‘ with an account of the return which he
 ‘ met for his kindness, which was no less
 ‘ than a *round-robin* * to the lords of the
 ‘ admiralty, for his refusing to let them go
 ‘ ashore, and spend their money, in the
 ‘ same manner, the next time they came
 ‘ in.

‘ And such a return may their officious-
 ‘ ness always meet (replied the other) for
 ‘ meddling with matters which do not con-
 ‘ cern them: cannot they be content with
 ‘ their own large gains, without interfering
 ‘ to hinder others? But I see how it is:
 ‘ the spirit of patriotism has got into them

* The name that seamen call their complaints a-
 gainst their captain; it is taken from the manner of
 their signing them, which is in a circle, so that there
 is no knowing who signs first.

‘ too, forsooth, and they must be shewing
‘ their regard to the publick! What an evil
‘ effect will the bad example of one man
‘ have! There was a time, when they
‘ would not have dared to do this. To say
‘ the truth, my friend, this is not the first
‘ alarm we have received on this head;
‘ though what to do about it, we cannot
‘ tell: indeed, I believe we must e’en mend
‘ our hands; which, as half a loaf is better
‘ than no bread, hard as it is upon us, is
‘ preferable to losing the trade quite; in
‘ the mean time, I am obliged to you and
‘ your captain for your friendship, and hope
‘ you will accept of *this* return.’ They
then proceeded to settle their accounts, as
soon as which were finished, my master
took his leave, and went on with his busi-
ness, which was exactly of the same nature,
and concluded in the same way, with every
person whom he dealt with.

As soon as these transactions were ended,
his next care was to pass his captain’s ac-
counts, which he also succeeded in, without
any difficulty, though for this he was more
indebted to the chance of a lucky minute,
than he had apprehended. For they were
no sooner closed, than an affair happened
that gave a turn, entirely new, to the whole
course of business, in that channel.

When

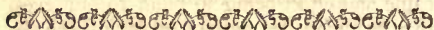
When the accounts of the next captain came to be examined, the clerk glancing his eye cursorily over them, in the usual manner, on looking at the amount, ‘ There must be some mistake here (said he).’— ‘ How so, Sir (said the captain, who was present) let me look at the account, if you please. No, Sir, there is no mistake, I believe.—Pray where do you mean?’— ‘ In the casting it up, Sir (answered the clerk) you see, the amount is made to be but 800*l.*’— ‘ Nor should it be more (replied the captain) I summed up the account myself, and these figures are of my own writing.’— ‘ How can that possibly be, Sir (returned the clerk in a surprize) but 800*l.* for all the repairs, *wear and tear*, of a man of war, on such a station, for four years! I suppose then, Sir, the ship had a thorough repair going out, and wants the like now! To be sure, it can be done better, and cheaper here, than abroad, and therefore you were in the right to bring her home, to get it.’— ‘ Not at all, Sir (added the captain) that was not the case: she had no thorough repair going out, and is come home in better order than she went, as this return of the officers of the yard shews.’— ‘ Good God! Sir, how did you manage?’— ‘ To
• the

‘ the best of my judgment, Sir; I laid out
 ‘ nothing but what I thought necessary, and
 ‘ I charged nothing but what I laid out: I
 ‘ mean not to arraign the conduct of others;
 ‘ I only speak for myself. In these cases, I
 ‘ look upon a man as a steward to the pub-
 ‘ lick; and I should think it as great dis-
 ‘ honesty to betray, or break that trust, as
 ‘ to wrong a private person.’

This speech was heard with astonishment,
 and returned with a cold compliment; as it
 came too home to many, to meet general
 approbation; however, the affair necessa-
 rily had an effect not very agreeable to some
 present; for the next captain’s accounts
 arising to near four times the sum of the
 last, such an immediate precedent made
 the difference so glaring, that it was impos-
 sible to avoid putting a stop to them;
 though ours, which had been still higher,
 had gone off smoothly, and without the
 least remark.

My master having concluded this affair
 so happily, proceeded next on the great
 cause of his coming to town, in which,
 with our assistance, he laboured so success-
 fully, that the captain’s *mistake* met only
 a gentle reprimand.

I here came into the possession of a new master, and immediately after changed my *Spanish* appearance for the fashion of the country, and in the shape of a *guinea*, entered into the most extensive state of sublunary influence, becoming the price of every name, that is respected under heaven.



C H A P. XIII.

CHRYSAL explains some farther properties of his nature. He changes his appearance for the mode of the country; and enters into the service of a noble lord. The sagacity of Mr. Poundage, and his address in Business.

I Am now entering upon a stage, where the scenes are so various, and so quickly changed, that it will require your strictest attention to keep pace with my relation. But to make this the easier to you, and to disincumber your surprize from doubts, at my repeating the past lives of persons, in whose possession I have been, but a few moments, I must premise to you, that *our* knowledge is very different from that of
men.

men. I have told you, that we know all things *intuitively*, without the trouble, delay, and errors of *discourse* or reasoning. I must now further inform you, that this intuition extends not only to the present face of things, but also has a retrospect to the whole series of their existence, from its first beginning: the *concatenation* between cause and effect being so plain to our eyes, that let us but see any one event of the life of a man, and we immediately know every particular that preceded it.

As to *futurity* indeed, it is not yet determined how far forward we can look into that; some allowing us to have the same power of *foresight* as we have of *retrospect*; which was the opinion that supported the credit of oracles in former days. But that notion is now exploded, and men argue, that our *foresight* extends only to *natural* causes and effects: but in the actions of man, his *free-will* so often breaks that order, that it is impossible for us to know this moment how he will act the next, from any observation of the past; and they think they prove their argument by this, that if spirits could fore-know all a man's actions, it would spare them the trouble of tempting him to any particular ones. -- A favourite opinion, this of *temptation*, in the
pre-

present way of thinking, as it is a ready excuse for throwing the blame of every unfortunate or evil action on the poor *Devil*, who perhaps knew nothing of the matter all the while.

But though the *Devil* may not be always able to foretell positively, every one allows that *he* can generally guess well; a power which I mention to you, as I may often exert it in this account.—I say, The *Devil*, to accommodate himself to the general mode of speaking, which refers every action, good or bad, the cause of which men do not know, to some being which they call by that name.—But to return to my story.

From the *Mint*, where I put on the shape of a guinea, I was sent to the *Bank*, where the pleasure I had felt at the beauty and convenience of my new figure was considerably cooled, at my being thrown into so large an heap, as took away all my particular consequence, and seemed to threaten a long state of inactivity, before it might come to my turn to be brought into action. But I soon found myself agreeably mistaken, and that the *circulation* there was too quick to admit of such delay: for I was that very day paid out to a noble lord, in his pension from the ministry.

It

It was about two in the afternoon, when I was brought to his lordship's levee, where the grandeur of his looks, and the magnificence of every thing about him, made me so pleased with my situation, that I thought I could be satisfied to fix my abode with him for some time.

He was just arisen, and seated at the fire, leaning on a writing table covered with green velvet, on which lay some books open, and several letters which he had just broke the seals off, and was beginning to read, while a female servant, beautiful as *Hebe*, poured out his tea at a side-board, and a page, like *Ganymede*, handed it to him.

In this easy indifference he sat, casting an eye upon a book, or reading a paragraph in a letter, between every sip of his breakfast, when I was laid upon his table, by his steward, with these words, — ‘Two hundred, my lord’—‘Two hundred, (replied his lordship) the order was for five hundred!’—‘But, my lord, the butcher, the baker!’—‘*What are these wretches to me! Is not my whole estate sufficient for them?*’ ‘My lord, there is not a shilling to be got from your tenants, the times are so bad and the taxes so high! and an ounce of provisions could not be had’—‘*Then*
‘*you*

' you might have all fasted! I must have mo-
 ' ney for this evening; I am engaged in a
 ' PARTY, and cannot be off.' — ' My lord,
 ' your lordship's taylor desired me to speak
 ' to you; he is to appear before his com-
 ' missioners to-morrow, and begs' —
 ' What can I do? I would relieve him if I
 ' could, but I have not money for myself: I
 ' can not, will not do without five hundred more
 ' this evening, get it where or how you will'. —
 ' My lord, I was thinking to apply to Mr.
 ' Discount, the scrivener, but he said the
 ' last time, that he would lend no more on
 ' that estate, without the immediate power
 ' o' cutting the timber.' — ' Well, damn
 ' him, let him have it, though it will not be
 ' fit to cut these ten years; and, do you hear,
 ' get me a thousand to day' — ' A thousand,
 ' my lord! you said five hundred: I am
 ' afraid he will think a thousand too much!' —
 ' Then he shall never have it; let me do as
 ' I will; do not I know, that the timber is
 ' worth twice as much this moment, if I could
 ' wait to set it to sale; I will not be imposed
 ' on by the rascal: I'll go myself to my neigh-
 ' bour Worthland directly; he is a man of
 ' honour, and will be above taking advan-
 ' tage, though I did oppose his election.' — ' As
 ' your lordship pleases for that. But then,
 ' perhaps, Mr. Discount will call in all his
 ' money,

' money, if he saw you put yourself into
 ' other hands; beside, I am not certain
 ' that he will refuse, and therefore I should
 ' think it better to try him first; you may
 ' do this after. Though I must take the
 ' liberty to say, I should be sorry to see
 ' your lordship obliged to stoop to *Sir John*
 ' *Worthland*, after all the expence you have
 ' been at to give him trouble. For to be
 ' sure he would boast of it in the country,
 ' if it was only to make you look little,
 ' and prevent your opposing him again'—
 ' *Why there may be something in that: and*
 ' *therefore see what is to be done with DIS-*
 ' *COUNT; but I must have the thousand at any*
 ' *rate, five hundred of which give to poor*
 ' *Buckram, and bring me the other as soon as*
 ' *possible, for I am in haste out.*' — 'Then
 ' your lordship had better sign this deed
 ' first, to save the time of coming back
 ' again, if he should do it'—'Aye, let me
 ' see it; there: and make haste.—(And then
 ' turning to his page) *reach me that paper,*
 ' *this pen is so good it tempts me to write a*
 ' *letter, while I wait for Poundage's return.*'
 And so humming a new tune, he went on
 with his breakfast without the least con-
 cern.

You are so great a stranger to the ways
 of that part of the world which deals in

money-matters, that you will be surprized when I tell you, that while this Mr. *Poundage* brought me from the Bank, he had called upon Mr. *Discount* and brought him to his lord's, to do *his* business.

But you must not imagine this was to lend his lordship money. Nothing less. It was only to appear as the nominal lender of 1000 *l.* of his lordship's own money, which *Poundage* had that very morning received from some of his tenants in the country, and which, if he could not bring it in better, he meant to replace with part of the price of the timber, which he was to buy in *Discount's* name, who was a creature of his own.

So remarkable a transaction gave me a curiosity to take a *view* of *Poundage's* life, the main lines of which I will just touch over, while you may think him gone for the money, and his lordship dressing for his engagement.

* * * * *

C H A P. XIV.

The history of Mr. Thomas Poundage. His lordship goes to his appointment. An evening's entertainment in high life. CHRYSAL changes his service: his reflections on the ruling passion of the times.

MR. Thomas Poundage was the offspring of a gypsy, who had left him in the straw he was born on, in an old barn near his lordship's father's, his weakness and deformity making her not think him worth the trouble of carrying away.

The old lord himself happening to be the first who heard his cries, as he was riding by, took compassion on the little helpless wretch, and ordered him to be taken care of at his own expence, and not sent to the parish.

Such an uncommon instance of charity was immediately attributed to a tenderer motive: a suspicion, however injurious to his lordship, so advantagious to the *foundling*, that it doubled the care and attendance on him, and made him appear of such consequence, that *Mr. Thomas Poundage* him-

self, his lordship's steward, condescended to stand god-father for him, and gave him his own name. As *Master Tommy* grew up, he shewed all the sharpness and cunning of his race, which old *Poundage* representing to his lord, as a capacity for learning, he was put to the best schools; and being of the same age with his lordship's eldest son, his present master, was settled as an humble companion and attendant upon him; in which station, the pliancy of his temper soon gained him his master's favour, as his secrecy and discretion did his confidence; no service appearing too difficult or mean for his undertaking, to please his master, especially in the mysteries of intrigue; nor a look ever betraying his success.

These services naturally produced an intimacy, that opened to him all his master's secrets, and gave him such consequence with him, that upon the death of his father, old *Poundage* was *superannuated upon a pension*, and the place given to him, in which he had behaved himself so judiciously, that in about ten years he had amassed so large a fortune, as to be able to supply his master's wants (with the assistance of his own money sometimes) without the scandal of exposing them to any other: a service that amply recompensed to his lordship's honour, what-

whatever prejudice it may be supposed to do his affairs.

'Tis true, his thus supplanting his godfather and benefactor *old Poundage*, had not met with the approbation of such as were not well acquainted with the world, and particularly, as the old gentleman, in his rage, had accounted for all his kindness to him, by owning a relation, which he had before strove to fix upon his lord, by many plain insinuations, though he now said he had long before revealed to his ungrateful son, the secret of his birth.

However, if he had communicated this secret, our son of fortune had kept it so well, that he could now deny it with safety; nor had he profited so little by his father's example, as to be moved with a suggestion that evidently appeared, however true it might be in itself, to spring at that time from resentment. And as he could not expect to reap any great advantage from being acknowledged for the spurious son of one who had many legitimate children to inherit his fortune, he thought it better to confirm the former opinion, by his slights of the claim of *Poundage*, and since he must be the bastard of one of them, chuse the lord before his servant.

But to return to my master. He was dressed by that time *Poundage* came back with the money, when taking the five hundred for his own use, he went to his appointment.

As to the other five hundred, which he had ordered to be paid to his taylor, for fear of the wretch's applying to the lord himself, in his despair, *Poundage* did lend for him, and in compassion to his distress, advanced him 400 l. of his own money, for he had not a shilling of his lord's in his hands; for which piece of service he desired no other consideration, than a receipt for 500 l. though it might be so long before he could get it back, that he expected to be a loser by his friendship, which *Mr. Buckram* need not, as he could bring it up in his next bill.

It was five o'clock, and dinner just serving up, when my lord joined his company. At dinner, and during the reign of the bottle for a couple of hours after, the conversation turned upon all the polite topicks of the times, wherein there could be no long disputes, as every difference in opinion was immediately determined by a bet, the supreme decision of peace, war, religion and law.—But this dissipated *pidling* loon gave way to the serious business of the evening, to which they all adjourned, with an
at-

attention and anxiety worthy of the consequence at stake.

It is impossible to give you any idea of this scene, in which every moment produced such sudden transitions from despair to exultation, from shouts of joy to the most blasphemous execrations of their very being, on the vicissitudes in the momentary fortunes of the actors, that the very recollection of it is a pain even to me, as it bears too strong a resemblance to the tortures of the damned.

However, it made no such impression upon them: but they continued at it till about six in the *morning*, when they retired for the *night*.

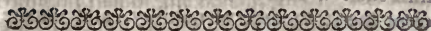
In the course of the *evening*, I often went the circuit of the whole company round, and at length was carried home by a new master. But before I say any thing of him, I must give you a few slight sketches of the characters of some others of the company, and particularly of my *late* lord, in whose whole appearance and behaviour there was something so extraordinary.

There is scarce a stronger instance of the tyranny of avarice over the heart of man, than the passion for *play*, which now is so general and prevalent, as to seem in a manner to have drowned every other. The

tendrest, the strongest connections of friendship and nature, yield to the force of this resistless infatuation. The persons who esteem each other most in the world this moment, no sooner sitting down to this *decision of fate*, than they labour for each other's ruin, with all the assiduity and eagerness of the most inveterate hatred and revenge.

Nor is this practice confined to those alone whom necessity may seem to stimulate to so desperate a resource. The richest are often found to be the most infatuated with this passion, who possessing already more than they can enjoy, yet hazard that, and give themselves up a prey to anxiety, and often to despair, to indulge a fruitless desire for more.

Of this last class were most of the company, among whom my *late* lord had spent this evening: some few indeed there were whom this folly had reduced to the former, and necessitated to live by their experience in the art which had been their ruin.



C H A P. XV.

CHRYSAL represents the company in perspective
*Anecdotes of some of the most remarkable per-
 sons of the party. A painter-general de-
 ceived by his own judgment and eminent taste
 for VIRTU.*

I see your curiosity rise at the mention of
 so strange a scene as this must be. It
 is natural, and therefore shall be indulged.
 But as all description must fall short of it,
 I shall represent it to you in perspective.
 Do you therefore resolve sense into imagi-
 nation, a practice not uncommon with the phi-
 losophick mind, and to pure abstracted at-
 tention, shall my words become things,
 and appear as visible to its eyes, as if they
 were purged with *euphrasie* and *rue*.

Observe now at the head of the table,
 that heavy looking figure, whose *saturnine*
 complexion gives a solemnity to his ap-
 pearance, even beyond his declining years.
 This man wore out the prime of his life
 in indigence and hardships, till chance, by
 one successful stroke in his business, gave

him such a fortune, as was deemed sufficient merit to deserve nobility, and entitle him to one of the first employments in the state.

Sudden elevation makes a weak head giddy; the plain, good-natured, chearful man, is lost in the solemn proud peer; who is harder of access than his sov'reign, and seems to value himself on having all the hours he has spent in cringing to the great, repaid tenfold in attendance upon him. As to the business of his office, the whole system of human politicks is in general such a jumble of blundering and villany, that I can seldom bring myself to bestow a moment's notice on it, so can say no more of his, than that the little attention, and less capacity he has for it, may most probably give just occasion for all the murmurings that are against him.—But this was not the motive of my pointing him to you. It was his infatuation to the love of play, which makes him hazard that wealth which he so long felt the want of, in hopes of acquiring more, though he has already more than he can enjoy.

This has been an unsuccessful night with him. Observe how stupified he looks at his loss! extend the view but a few moments farther, and see how he sits down in the
com-

common hall of the tavern, among servants and chairmen, insensible of the impropriety of such a place, and unable to order his servants to carry him home: nor is it improbable that the scene he has just quitted may remain so strongly on his imagination to-morrow, that he may write down the rules of the game he has been playing at, instead of the orders of his office, as he has done once before.

Next to him, you see a short, ruddy, chearful looking man. That is one of the deplorable instances of the evil of this preposterous passion. With every advantage of rank, abilities and fortune, did that person set out in life. But alas! soon was the prospect of his future happiness and grandeur overcast! soon did gaming reduce him not only to a necessity of prostituting his abilities to the prejudice of his country, but also of descending to every iniquitous mystery of the art to support his practice of it; for so bewitched is he to it, that he cannot desist, though he now can scarce get any person to play with him, his want of money and his skill being so well known.

This has been a successful evening with him, as you may see by his extraordinary flow of spirits: not that his natural vivacity ever fails him in the worst reverse of fortune.

He has won a considerable part of the great loofings of the person we have just been taking notice of; and though he has many demands upon him for every shilling of it, yet so far from thinking of paying one of them, he is this moment planning new scenes of pleasure to consume it all, preferring to let his creditors all be bankrupts, or even to compound with them as a bankrupt himself, rather than deny his appetites their full gratification.

Opposite to him, at the other side of the table, observe an uncommonly large-boned bulky man: that is one of the instances of the insufficiency, and weakness of human laws, which striving to remedy one evil, often make way for a greater.—That man is now advanced to the foremost rank of the military list, without one military virtue to assist his rise, but merely and solely by *seniority*! A grievous abuse of that institution, which to prevent favour from advancing its minions over friendless merit, ordains, that no senior officer shall serve under his junior; but now, by the natural force of human perversion, this well-designed regulation is made a pretext for giving command to such as have no other claim to it, than (what should indeed incapacitate them) old-age, and so keeping
back

back the advance, and damping the ardour of youth.

As there is no man without some particular ambition, his has taken a turn, which perhaps you may think the most remote from his profession of a soldier. Pictures! painting, is the sole object of his admiration, the only knowledge he values himself upon. Tell him of a siege, or a battle, an attack or a retreat, conducted with the greatest skill, and he hears you unmoved, nor will interrupt your account with a single question: but name *Rembrandt* or *Titian*, and he immediately gives you a dissertation on their excellencies, and the difference of their schools! Tell him but of a sale of pictures, on the day fixed for a review, and, if he is forced to feign sickness to excuse his attendance in the field, he will be at it.

Such absurd passions are always the objects of artifice and imposition. An ingenious painter of this country, not very long since, whose works would have been a credit to the best of foreign schools, but were despised at home, bethought himself of a way to turn this person's foible to some advantage. He made some designs, landscapes, and other drawings, in the manner of some of the greatest of the ancient *Italian* masters, whose names he marked

marked upon the backs of them, in the rude characters of their times, and giving them *the cast* of age, made them up, in an *Italian* chest. and by the assistance of a captain of a ship, had them entered at the custom-house, as directly from *Italy*, and consigned to a stranger, as from a friend there, to be disposed of in *London*.

The report instantly reached this lover of *virtu*, who was so ravished with the thought of gaining such a treasure, that he flew to the place, and *being convinced by his judgment of the authenticity of them*, bought them all together for a very large sum, but far short of their *real* value, had they been to be disposed of by a person *acquainted* with it.

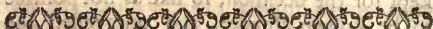
Though this success was very pleasing, and useful to the painter, he did not stop here. This person had some way taken a dislike to him, which he indulged, by running down his work. This therefore was an opportunity for revenge, not to be missed. He let him boast of his acquisition in all companies, and display his judgment in proving them to be the genuine productions of those great masters, by criticisms which none but a connoisseur could make: but then, as soon as the whole affair was so publick, that there was no denying it, what does the incensed artist but produce the

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counterparts of them all, which he had kept for the occasion, so like as not possible to be known asunder, and unravelled the whole affair, taking care only to keep himself clear of the law, by saying, that he had sold those things as of no value, at a very small price, to a Jew.

This was a severe stroke! It overturned the only reputation which he had even an ambition of, and robbed him of a large sum of money beside, to recover which loss, and divert the chagrine of the whole deceit, he has recourse to play, which he follows with the eagerness you see.

I see your senses fail, under such an extraordinary exertion, I shall therefore close this scene with observing, that the whole company may be characterized under the few I have pointed to you. In this view of them, I chose to take the silent moment, when their business was near over, for in the height of it, the agitation of such complicated passions would have been too horrible for representation.



C H A P. XVI.

CHRYSAL gives a farther account of his late lord. The methods by which he had been initiated in the mysteries of polite life. Some sketches of the character of his next master, who gives him to an extraordinary person.

I Promised to give you some account of my late lord. He was the son of one of the most distinguished persons of his age, who had acquired a fortune in the service of his country, sufficient to support, with proper dignity, the nobility with which his faithful zeal was rewarded by his grateful sovereign.

The youth of his son opened with such promising hopes, that it was expected he would advance, in the steps of his father, to the highest rank of a subject. To facilitate these hopes, at his return from his travels, in which he had not only gone to see, but had also taken time to consider the principal countries of *Europe*, with those of *Africa* and *Asia*, whose interests might any way affect those of his own, or whose history,

tory, illustrated thus by observation, might teach him to improve the advantages of his own country, and avoid the evils which had been the ruin of others, he was placed in the lower house of the senate, with every advantage of fortune, interest, and opinion, to support the exertion of his abilities.

He had scarce made himself known here, in his proper light, when the death of his father raised him into the house of *peers*, where he soon established a weight that made him of real consequence to the nation, and alarmed the fears of the ministry, who, as they could not confute, resolved to corrupt him, if possible; for which end the deepest schemes were put in practice, to relax his morals, and embarrass his fortune, as the present situation of both, raised him above their attempts.

It would require uncommon virtue to resist the temptations to vice, in an age whose refinements have taken off every grossness, and almost every horror of its appearance. His regard was won, by a most delicate application to that vanity, which is too often the shadow of merit, especially in youth; the very persons who designed to change his principles, seeming to give up theirs to the superior force of his reason.

Such

Such artifice soon won the confidence of his unguarded heart, and inclined it to receive their opinions and advice, without farther examination; as the heat of youth, and a vivid imagination assisted their designs against his fortune, the success of which was in itself a sufficient reward.

He had always expressed a dislike to *play*, nor ever gave into it, but in complaisance to company. To conquer this aversion was therefore their last labour, in which they found easier success than they could have even hoped for. The affluence of his fortune made him above apprehension of loss, and a disdain to be excelled, even in an art he disapproved, engaged him with a keenness, that soon made his advances in the art a pleasure to him.

The work was now done; and a few years of his own industry, with the assistance of his friends, and the management of his faithful steward, made him willing to enter into the pay of a ministry, which he might, in less time, have over-turned.

This was his situation at that time; but some secret struggles which I saw reason and virtue making in his heart, made me think he meditated a revolt from his infatuation, which the least liberty to his natural good sense could not fail to accomplish;

an event, which the rapacity of *poundage* must hasten to his own ruin.

The person, in whose possession I left the scene you have just beheld, was one of those who had been so successful in initiating my late master into all the mysteries of pleasure. Indeed, he seemed designed by nature to extend its empire over all mankind, making it the sole object of abilities equal to the most exalted pursuits, to invent new, to improve the old methods of gratifying sense, and enforcing his precepts, by an example so keen, and a conversation so captivating, as not to be resisted.

Appetites so extensive required a large support; to provide which, for fortune had so far frowned upon his birth, that he was but a younger brother, he was compelled to steal some moments from his darling pleasures, and sacrifice them to business.—The interest of his family, and his own abilities had raised him to the first employments in the state; but as the sole motive of his submitting to the restraint of any application, was to acquire a fund for the gratification of his pleasures, his haste to arrive at that end, precipitated him into the most destructive measures, and made him ready and eager to embrace every opportunity of sacrificing, or rather selling the interest

terest of his country for present private gain.

The proper application of the gifts of heaven, makes them a blessing. This cast of his disposition, made those abilities, which under a right direction, would have been of the highest service to himself and his country, a real prejudice to both, making him the ready and dangerous instrument of the most enormous crimes, that could promise present gratification to his passions.

In such a life, there must necessarily be many disagreeable occurrences, but they make no impression on him, for his whole soul is so devoted to pleasure, that upon the least miscarriage in business, he finds immediate relief in the return to that, which he can fly to, without any difficulty, the natural vivacity of his temper, that makes his conversation so bewitching to others, never yielding to a second moment's vexation, at any one event.

As the viper bears in herself the antidote of her poison, this dissipation of temper prevents his abilities from doing all the mischief he otherwise might, by pulling off the mask, and shewing his designs, too soon for their accomplishment. The very persons, who would gladly avail themselves of
the

the venality, not daring to trust to the inconstancy of his disposition; so that he soon lost his greatest power of doing evil, otherwise than by opposing, and impeding the measures of those, whose successful honesty disappointed his designs, and shewed the danger of them in its proper light.

You will not imagine, that my stay could be long in his possession. He that very day gave me to an author, for throwing dirt on the characters of those who had detected and defeated his schemes of leading his country into ruin.



C H A P. XVII.

The history and character of CHRYSAL'S new master. His adventures at the coffee house. The fun of a modern GENIUS retorted upon himself, by the grave rebuke of a testy veterane.

MY new master was a votary of *Apollo*; in the double capacity of physic and letters: for the former not affording scope enough for his genius, he usually dedicated his leisure hours to the gentler entertainment of the latter, through the extensive circle
of

of which he had occasionally ran; there not being a branch, in the wide wood of Science, which had not felt his pruning. The lowest rudiments of the most vulgar arts, being, in his opinion, no more beneath the philosophick pen, than the most abstruse heights of speculation.

It must be owned, that in such a latitude of study, he often was obliged to prostitute his labours; but for this he had the solid consolation, that his gain generally rose, in proportion as his subject sunk, the caprice of the world paying best, that is, buying most eagerly, what it affected to decry most. Nor is this to be wondered at, a loose tale, or a receipt for cooking a new dish, being better adapted to general taste, than a moral essay, or metaphysical speculation.

From his patron's levee, my master went directly home, and undressing into his cap and slippers, ascended to his study, and took a meditative turn or two, revolving in his mind the many grievances that called upon him for redress, from the success of that morning.

At length, bursting into a rapture, he cried, ' I'll think no more! Be the wants
' of yesterday forgot! those of to-morrow
' will come too soon, without the anticipa-
' tion of thought! I cannot pay all I owe!

‘ I cannot provide all I want ! Hence then
‘ vain care ! I’ll depend on fortune, and
‘ myself, for a greater supply, another
‘ day, and indulge my genius with the
‘ present.’—Big with this heroick resolu-
tion, he gave orders for dinner, and then
sending for his best suit home, dressed him-
self in all his pride, and went to the coffee-
house to look at the papers.

The pleasure of *my* company had given
such a flow to his spirits, naturally high,
that he soon drew the attention of the coffee-
room, the greater part of the company ga-
thering in a circle round him, to hear his
remarks on the publications of the day,
which he threw out with the confidence of
one, who thought his opinion the established
standard of all writing ; and at the same
time, with a sprightliness that made his
very impudence and absurdity entertain-
ing.

While he was thus running on, in the tor-
rent of harangue, a *veterane*, whose only em-
ployment, for many years, was talking
over the actions of his youth, and compa-
ring them to the mistakes and losses of the
present times, no longer able to contain his
rage, at having his audience drawn from
him, in the midst of his daily tale, rose up
with an execration that shook the room, and
calling

calling for his cloak and cane, ‘ This is
 ‘ not to be borne (exclaimed he). Here,
 ‘ waiter, take for my coffee ! I shall stay
 ‘ in such a place no longer : is this the
 ‘ land of freedom, forsooth ! that a man
 ‘ must be disturbed in his discourse, and
 ‘ not have liberty to speak where he spends
 ‘ his money. Had I but the command
 ‘ here, I’d settle other orders ; every pra-
 ‘ ting puppy should not presume to inter-
 ‘ rupt his betters : things are like to go
 ‘ well with us, when matters of the highest
 ‘ consequence can be broken in upon by
 ‘ noise and nonsense. This is freedom
 ‘ with a vengeance !’

The look and accent with which these words were pronounced, were too terrible for my master to encounter ; both nature and experience having given him so lively an apprehension of danger, that his readiest presence of mind was not always able to conceal it. He was, therefore, cut short at once, and could scarce muster spirits to throw a wink at some of those about him, as the *man of war* looked another way.

But the triumph was not so absolute over all the company, one of whom, resolving to have some *fun*, cries out, ‘ Pray doctor
 ‘ proceed ; you are just, in the most in-
 ‘ teresting part of your story : the colonel
 ‘ could

‘ could not mean to interrupt you ; he is
 ‘ too fond of telling his own story, to give
 ‘ another such pain : go on, you should
 ‘ not be frightened at a flash in the pan.’

‘ Frighted indeed’ (replied the doctor, gathering courage when he saw himself supported) ‘ at what, I wonder ! at the sight
 ‘ of what old age can sink to ! no, no !
 ‘ I am not so easily frightened ! I leave that
 ‘ to your antiquated heroes, the exploits of
 ‘ whose youth have exhausted their cou-
 ‘ rage : I mean no offence ;—but to go on,
 ‘ as I was saying, *the discovery of the sleep of
 ‘ plants accounts in the clearest manner*’ —
 ‘ Hold, doctor (cries the other) that was not
 ‘ as you were saying, you were telling us of
 ‘ the nobleman, who caught his coachman
 ‘ in bed with his lady, one morning, when
 ‘ he came home, sooner than usual from
 ‘ the tavern, pray how did she bring her-
 ‘ self off.

‘ Oh, was that it (replied the doctor)
 ‘ faith I had forgot ; the fury of *Mars* had
 ‘ like to have made a gap in the annals of
 ‘ *Venus* : ha ! ha ! ha ! why she made no-
 ‘ thing of it, but laughing in his face, most
 ‘ heroically, *tit for tat* my dear is but fair
 ‘ play (said she) while I say nothing at
 ‘ your staying out night after night with

‘ Kitty, you cannot in conscience blame my
 ‘ comforting myself a little with *John*.’

The colonel stood all this while convulsed with rage, too big for utterance, but the universal laugh that followed the doctor’s last words, rousing him from his *reverie*, he advanced to him,
 ‘ Whom do you dare to laugh at, *poul-*
 ‘ *tron*? (says he, taking him by the
 ‘ nose) whose courage is exhausted? but
 ‘ you are beneath my notice or resentment,
 ‘ farther than this’--(then spitting full in his face, he turned to the gentleman who had set the doctor on, and who now began not to like the joke any farther) ‘ But
 ‘ for you, Sir, you perhaps may be a gen-
 ‘ tleman, and worth calling to a further
 ‘ account, will you please to walk up stairs
 ‘ with me, and let me know what you
 ‘ meant by a flash in the pan?’

The ceremonies of attending him, on such an expedition, would not have been much more agreeable to this gentleman, than to my master, but he had more command of his fear, and was well used to bring himself off with a joke. ‘ Sir (says he)
 ‘ you need not give yourself the trouble of
 ‘ going up stairs, for what I can as well do
 ‘ here! By bidding the doctor not be
 ‘ frightened, I meant at the circumstances of
 ‘ his

‘ his own story, for just as you interrupted
 ‘ him, he had said, that the lord snapped a
 ‘ pistol at his lady, which had flashed in
 ‘ the pan! That was all, Sir! I could ne-
 ‘ ver mean it to offend you, or shew a doubt
 ‘ of your courage, which I have heard you
 ‘ relate so many surprizing instances of, so
 ‘ often, and always so invariably alike,
 ‘ that they must be true.’

‘ Sir! Sir! have a care (replied the co-
 ‘ lonel) I do not desire to be troubled with
 ‘ such a gentleman, as I perceive your are!
 ‘ But let me tell you, Sir, that I have seen
 ‘ a man’s face broke, before now, for
 ‘ wearing such a sneer! As to the stories I
 ‘ tell, I am satisfied they will be of no ser-
 ‘ vice to you, nor raise the least emulation
 ‘ in a man who can stay lounging about
 ‘ town, when his country has occasion for
 ‘ him. I was younger than you, when I
 ‘ went a voluntier with lord *Cutts*, under
 ‘ the duke of *Marlborough*, nor was I urged
 ‘ by want. I had a good estate, Sir, suf-
 ‘ ficient to supply me with what you call
 ‘ the pleasures of life, if I could have
 ‘ thought any thing a pleasure that was not
 ‘ attended with honour. Sir, I lost this
 ‘ hand at *Blenheim*, and this leg at *Malpla-*
 ‘ *quet*! But why do I tell you so! you will
 ‘ preserve your hands to take snuff; and

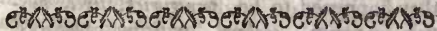
‘ your legs, to walk the park, the proper
‘ scene of your campaigns.’—With which
words the doughty heroe marched away to
his chariot.

Though this lecture was rather too grave
for the taste of the person to whom it was
addressed, it gave great pleasure to the un-
concerned part of the company, and to
none more than my master, who had wiped
his face, and began to come to himself, as
soon as he saw the danger directed another
way.

Before the gentleman could speak, the
doctor came up to him, and said, ‘ I am
‘ sorry, Sir, that you should have drawn
‘ this storm upon yourself, upon my ac-
‘ count ! But I bore the worst of it ! You
‘ heard but the whistling of the winds, the
‘ shower fell on me ! ’tis well though, that
‘ what such dotards do, is not esteemed
‘ an affront !’—‘ An affront, Sir (replied
‘ the other) I do not understand you ! I
‘ hope you do not insinuate, that there was
‘ any affront offered to me, or that I was
‘ in the least concerned in what was said,
‘ only to you !’—‘ Not at all, Sir (retur-
‘ ned the doctor) not at all, Sir ! the colo-
‘ nel’s discourse was all directed to me, to
‘ be sure ! and I hope to profit by it, thus
‘ far, that I will never interrupt him again !
—And

—And with these words, he left his former friend the field, not caring to enter into any farther altercation with him, for fear he might take it into his head to vindicate his character on *him*, as *he knew his man*.

Such slight rebuffs made not a moment's impression on the temper of my master: he was used to, and made nothing of them! A good dinner, and a bottle of wine, sent him in the evening, in a critical enthusiasm, to the theatre, where all action fell short of the sublimity of his conception, all expression, of the warmth of his feeling, as he fully explained, to every company in the coffee-house, while he set at public supper, after the play was done.



C H A P. XVIII.

Some farther account of CHRYSAL's master. His conversation and engagements with two booksellers. Some of the secrets of the trade. CHRYSAL changes his service.

EXTENSIVE as these scenes were, they shewed not my master in his proper light. His peculiar sphere was his study, where the inconsistency of his works shewed

the *chaos* in the brain, from whence they sprung. *Chaos* did I say? *Chaos* is order to the confusion there. For surely the discordant seeds of such ill-matched things were never jumbled together before. An auctioneer's library is a regular system, in comparison to his head. Such an heap has neither beginning nor end. No fixed point to commence a description from. I shall therefore wave such an attempt, and only strive to convey some idea of it, from its effects.—At five next morning he arose to his labours, the first of which was to consider, what he should begin the day with, such was the multitude he had in hand. But what reason could not determine, chance must, and he took them as they happened to lie, *panegyrick, libel, physick, divinity, cookery, criticism, politicks, ballads, botany, &c. &c. &c.* In all of which he indefatigably worked the task of the day, changing his subject with as little concern as he did his paper: and though such rambling prevented his ever getting deeper than the surface of any subject, yet it shewed the extent and volubility of his capacity, and that it wanted only regular application, to any science, to be eminent in it.

As

As soon as he had finished, and the *devils* had carried away his labours, he was just descending to go out, when a bookseller came to pay him a visit. After much ceremony on one side, and little civility on the other, Mr. *Vellum* thus accosted my master: ‘Well, Sir, I see there is no dependence on the word of an author! I thought I was to have the answer to yesterday’s pamphlet last night! Somebody else will do it, and then I shall be finely off.’

‘Upon my honour, Sir (replied my master) I assure you I should have done it, but some business’—*What business can you have, that should interfere a moment with your engagements with me?*—‘Dear Mr. *Vellum* do but hear me! There is a noble lord going to be divorced for impotence; I just got an hint of the matter, the night before last, and so waited upon his lordship’s gentleman yesterday morning, with whom I have a particular intimacy, having served him in my profession more than once; and from him I have learned the whole story, and now leave me to set it out! I’ll engage to make a noble eighteen-pennyworth of it at least by to-morrow morning.’ ‘*Why, there may be something in that; but in the mean time you should not let other matters cool!*’

—‘ Never fear ; pray how did yesterday’s
‘ pamphlet do ?’—‘ *Why tolerably well ; but*
‘ *the scandal was so gross, that I was almost*
‘ *afraid.*’—‘ Aye ! aye ! never fear me for
‘ an home cut ! never fear me !’—‘ *But I bear*
‘ *nothing of the excrcitations !*’—‘ No ; your
‘ devil carried away the sheet above an hour
‘ ago !’—‘ *Then there’s that book you promised*
‘ *to re-write ; some one else will do it, and pre-*
‘ *vent you.*’—‘ Never fear, I have just laid
‘ down a scale for the stile ; beside, I have
‘ altered the title already, and that you
‘ know is the principal thing.’—‘ *That is*
‘ *right ! Now you speak of titles, I want half a*
‘ *dozen directly ! this very day if possible !*’—
‘ ’Tis rather too late now ; but where are
‘ the books ?’—‘ *In the lumber-garret, where*
‘ *they have lain these seven years.*’—‘ That’s
‘ well ; they are forgot by this.’—‘ *Forgot !*
‘ *why they were never known ! the author was a*
‘ *man of fortune, who printed them at his own*
‘ *expencc, but I prevented the sale, and so had*
‘ *them for the publishing ! Ha ! ha ! ha ! be-*
‘ *side a good consideration for the buying up, at a*
‘ *double price, what I had (NOT) sold of them ;*
‘ *so that it was not a bad job ; and now he is*
‘ *dead, they may safely come out, under new titles !*
‘ — *It will be too great a delay to wait to see*
‘ *them, but here are the old titles, which I sup-*
‘ *pose may do.*’—‘ Why aye ; they may do !
‘ but

‘ but I cannot possibly write them this
‘ evening; you know I must answer that
‘ pamphlet I wrote last week, before it is
‘ forgot: I have an answer ready, that will
‘ make a noise; I expect it will raise a cu-
‘ riosity, that will sell another edition of
‘ the pamphlet. I left opens for such re-
‘ torts upon the characters I praised in that,
‘ and have such pieces of secret history to
‘ hit them off with, that I’ll engage for the
‘ success—’ *Aye, secret history, and stories*
‘ *of family misfortunes, and such like, may do*
‘ *something! But I had like to have forgot*
‘ *the main business of my coming. There is an*
‘ *account of the death of an eminent divine, this*
‘ *morning: could we not vamp up a volume or*
‘ *two of sermons for him, think you? He was*
‘ *suspected of heresy and atheism, and you know,*
‘ *that would make any thing in his name go off*.
‘ Egad, a good thought! and particularly
‘ lucky at this time: for as I have been
‘ engaged in divinity lately, I know the
‘ weak sides of the question, and a little in-
‘ fidelity will be a refreshment to me. It
‘ shall be done! the sermons shall be ready
‘ without delay! Have not you got some
‘ by you that did not go off: let me have
‘ one of each, and I’ll interline it to save
‘ time; but will you publish them yourself?
‘ I thought you had given up sermons!’—

' Myself! no! no! I'll send them in to Mr.
 ' Vampe: I'll reserve the confutation of them to
 ' myself!'—' Egad, another good thought;
 ' the confutation will do better! and I'll
 ' take care to make it a smart one, and
 ' play the devil with the author; ha, ha,
 ' ha.—But, Mr. *Vellum*, your coming here
 ' this morning prevented my waiting on
 ' you: it is a great while since you pro-
 ' mised to settle with me. You should con-
 ' sider, Sir'—' *What pray, good Sir, should I*
 ' *consider? that I have supported you!*'—' Sup-
 ' ported me, Mr. *Vellum*! Sir, I have a pro-
 ' fession'—' *I know you have, Mr. Doctor; a*
 ' *profession indeed, in which his majesty's subjects*
 ' *may bless God that nine in ten of you would*
 ' *starve, if they had not some other way of get-*
 ' *ting bread, beside that*'—' Mr. *Vellum*,
 ' you know this way of talking signifies
 ' nothing. It is a long time since we have
 ' settled any account, and there are a great
 ' many articles! Let me see: aye, here they
 ' are! and a long list it is! NINETEEN
 ' PAMPHLETS, with ANSWERS to FOUR-
 ' TEEN of them, NINE RAPES, SIX MUR-
 ' DERS, FIVE FAST and FOUR FUNERAL
 ' SERMONS, THIRTY-SIX ESSAYS, TWEN-
 ' TY-TWO TITLES, FOUR QUARTO VO-
 ' LUMES RE-WRIT, SEVENTEEN WILLS,
 ' TWENTY-FOUR'—' Go on, Sir, go on!
 ' but

‘ but when you have done look at THIS, and
 ‘ then talk to me of an account; here is your
 ‘ bond for 15*l.* which is due these two years;
 ‘ and it is very likely, to be sure, that you
 ‘ should leave it out-standing so long, if you had
 ‘ any account to set off against it! but I am glad
 ‘ I know you; and since you talk of accounts,
 ‘ observe that I demand my money, due on this
 ‘ bond, which I will have, and when you have
 ‘ paid that, it will be time enough for me to set-
 ‘ tle accounts with you, so Sir your servant.’—
 ‘ Mr. Vellum, good Mr. Vellum, do not be so
 ‘ hasty! I did not mean to give you offence’
 ‘ —Accounts indeed! have I not supplied you
 ‘ with paper above the weekly allowance we
 ‘ agreed for, and yet you will talk to me!’—
 ‘ Mr. Vellum, I may be in the wrong; let
 ‘ matters stand as they are: but you have
 ‘ not told me what size you would have this
 ‘ affair of the divorce, that I mentioned to
 ‘ you just just now’—‘ There it is now; that
 ‘ is your way always; you know my easy temper,
 ‘ and that you can bring me down when you
 ‘ please: why if the story will bear much paint-
 ‘ ing, and the circumstances are very strong and
 ‘ plain, I believe you may draw it out to two
 ‘ shillings; and to encourage you, and show you
 ‘ that I mean generously by you, when you have
 ‘ finished that, and the Answer, and the Ser-
 ‘ mons, and the Confutations, and the Titles,
 ‘ and the Exercitations, I will give you up your
 G 6 bond

‘bond, and then we will begin an account on
 ‘fair even terms. But I am in haste; I have
 ‘three or four other gentlemen to call upon; I
 ‘shall depend upon your promise, and so good
 ‘morning.’ — ‘Good morning to you,
 ‘good Mr. *Vellum* — Damn’d, imposing,
 ‘grinding scoundrel; but I’ll be quit with
 ‘you, for all your tricks (said the doctor,
 ‘as soon as Mr. *Vellum* was out of the
 ‘room) and teach such stupid rascals to
 ‘attempt outwitting men of genius.

When I considered the nature and im-
 portance of my master’s demand, I could
 not but wonder at the ease with which he
 took a denial, and the joy he expressed at
 Mr. *Vellum*’s departure; but the mystery
 was soon cleared up, by the arrival of Mr.
Pamphlet, another of the trade, almost the
 very moment *Vellum* went down stairs, and
 whom I saw by his reception, my master
 expected.

If I was before shocked at the cruelty
 with which I thought *Vellum* treated my
 master, I was now no less so, at the part he
 acted with *Pamphlet*, with whom he bar-
 gained over again for the very same ware
 which he before promised to *Vellum*, and
 flattered him with an assurance of having
 his business done, that is, the answers and

re-

re-writing, before *Vellum* possibly could, for they were mortal enemies.

The discourse between these was much the same as the former, only that it was concluded in a different manner; *Pamphlet* giving my master a couple of pieces to keep him in mind of his engagement.

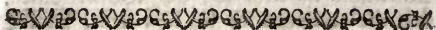
I was utterly at a loss to think how he meant to act between these two; when he put an end to my doubts by this soliloquy. 'So, now I have dispatched you two, the day is my own; keep my engagements! I will, with both alike. Let me see, there is nothing in it, but a little trouble of writing: I can divide the hits between both answers according to the opens I have left on purpose, and so send them to both at the same time; only to divide the alterations in my scale of stile, and make a second title, and so 'tis done. This method that I have found, of using a feigned name, makes it all easy. Well, let those who were born to fortunes, spend them in sloth and ignorance, I have an estate in myself, that can never be exhausted. I am obliged to nature only for my abilities, and carry the fountain of honour and fortune in the fluency of my genius.'

He

He then descended from his aërial citadel, and going out to visit his patients, exchanged me at the coffee-house, where I was immediately borrowed at the bar by an officer, who was going to dine with his general, and wanted money to give his servants.

END of the FIRST BOOK.





B O O K II.

C H A P. I.

CHRYSAL enters into the service of the gentleman of a general. Gratitude in high and low life. The modern way of rising in the world, and the happiness of dependance. Influence of CHRYSAL's master, with his curious manner of supporting it.

YOU may judge that my stay with this owner was but short: he gave me directly to the general's gentleman, with a letter to be presented to his excellency next morning, as he could not find courage to speak to him in person.

The case of this person, though not uncommon among men, I own affected me. He was the son of an officer of distinguished merit, the services of whose life had, in the 80th year of it, been rewarded with the command of a regiment, and the hopes of his son crowned with a pair of colours; which, on the death of his father, in six months after his elevation, he found to be his

his whole inheritance; the fees of office, and the equipage for his new rank, having exhausted all the savings of the old man's subaltern frugality. — The most exemplary duty, in five warm campaigns, had advanced the son to the rank of a lieutenant, when the exaltation of the person to whom he now applied, raised his hopes to a company, which was vacant in the regiment, and his right by seniority: for such was his ignorance of mankind, that he built sanguine expectations on the very reasons that should have deprived him of any, *the obligations of the person, to whom he applied, to his father*, who had taken him up, the poor friendless orphan of a young ensign, educated him at his own expence, procured him his first commission, and afterwards lent him the money with which he had purchased his company: a debt which the son was weak enough to expect a friendship from, though it, and much more, had long since been cleared at play.

But though the character of the son, and the general's known intimacy with the father, in a manner obliged him to promise him his friendship, yet nothing was farther from his thoughts than ever to do him any real service; as he imagined that would be acknowledging the obligations which his
very

very attendance seemed to upbraid him with: a dinner now and then being the only favour he ever had or ever meant to give him. You may perhaps have experienced the misery of a dependant's dining at the table of his patron, where the tortures of *Tantalus* are aggravated by anxiety of giving offence. I shall therefore hasten over this, and the other scenes of that evening, which were but the common occurrences of military greatness, and ended in a deep debauch, as soon as all but the *chosen few* had retired, to come to the conclusion of my *late* master's story, in which my *present* bore a considerable part.

As soon as the general had slept off the fumes of his wine, and awoke next morning, my master's hour of influence arrived, which he never failed to improve. After a prelude of coughing and spitting, the scene opened thus, '*Who's there? William!*' — '*Sir,*' — '*William, was not I very drunk last night? my head aches most confoundedly.*' — '*Your excellency was a little cut, but you broke up much the strongest of the company.*' — '*Aye, I wonder at that, I spend myself with talking, when I begin to go, and that helps a man on damnably: that story of the battle, where I was taken prisoner, is a bottle in my way always.*' — '*That foreign*'
' gen-

gentleman, who never speaks a word, has a great advantage then'—*'Aye, so he has; but he is a damned honest fellow, and a very good companion; he always fills a bumper and never speaks a word.—But my head.'*—*'Perhaps your excellency had better take something'*—*'No, I have taken too much already; though that's right; give me a glass of the old Geneva; I am to go to council to day, and must settle my head—Aye, that will do, I am much better now; there is nothing like a hair of the old dog'.*

This conversation continued till he was seated to breakfast, when my master turned to a new topic. *'I was very sorry (said he) that your excellency happened to sit in last night, as Mrs. Motherly was to call'*—*'Why that's true, William; I did not think of one engagement when I made the other; and when she called me out, I was not in cue; I was too far gone. We old fellows are not sparrows; the spirit is often willing, when the flesh is weak; ha, ha, ha'.*—*'Your excellency is pleased to be merry, but to my thinking, the youngest fellow of the age has not more vigour'*—*'Aye, William, do you think so indeed? But why do you think so William?'*—*'Because your excellency always chuses such green things; now I should think a ripe woman would*
be

‘ be better ; I am sure she would give less
‘ trouble.’—‘ *Ha, ha, ha, why that’s your*
‘ *taste ; but youth is mine ; and while I have*
‘ *powers (and I do not think mine quite gone*
‘ *yet) I will please my taste. But what had*
‘ *Mrs. Motherly last night ?*’—‘ A very fine
‘ girl as your excellency could wish to see’—
‘ *How old ?*’—‘ About sixteen.’—‘ *Psha, mel-*
‘ *low pears ; I loath such trash.*’—‘ But Mrs.
‘ *Motherly* said she could swear she was un-
‘ touched. She came from the country
‘ but yesterday, a relation of her own: the
‘ poor thing knew nothing of the matter,
‘ and thought she came to be hired for a
‘ laundry-maid.’—‘ *Why that is something ;*
‘ *but I wish she were younger*’—‘ If your excel-
‘ lency pleases but to wait a little, I have
‘ one in my eye that will suit your taste ex-
‘ actly ; a sweeter child is not in all En-
‘ gland’—‘ *Aye, good William* (spitting once
‘ or twice, and wriggling in his chair) *Aye,*
‘ *that is something ; but how old ?*’—‘ Just
‘ ten, and finely grown’—‘ *Right, the*
‘ *right age. That’s true ! I’ll speak this very*
‘ *day for that place for your brother. Tell him*
‘ *to come to-morrow ; I will not be refused.*’—
‘ We are both obliged to your excellency
‘ for all your favours’—‘ *But when shall I*
‘ *see this girl ? Give Motherly some excuse with*
‘ *her ripe fruit. Sixteen ! sixty ! psha !*’—
‘ Sir

‘ Sir I shall go about it this very evening.
 ‘ A letter from captain *Standard*; will your
 ‘ excellency please to read it’?——*Damn*
 ‘ him and his letter: throw it into the fire!
 ‘ What would the unreasonable scoundrel have?
 ‘ Did I not give him his dinner yesterday? Has
 ‘ he not been introduced to good company at my
 ‘ table? If he had any industry or spirit, with
 ‘ these advantages, he would have learned
 ‘ to play, and made his fortune as others do.
 ‘ Since he grows troublesome on encouragement,
 ‘ I’ll starve him into better manners. Bid the
 ‘ porter strike him off the dinner list.’——‘ I beg
 ‘ your excellency’s pardon, for mentioning
 ‘ him; but the manner I have heard you
 ‘ talk to him made me imagine you really
 ‘ did design to provide for him; and he
 ‘ says there is a vacancy in the regiment
 ‘ just now’——*Damn his impudence! a vacancy*
 ‘ indeed! I shall never think there is a good one
 ‘ till he makes it at Tyburn.’——‘ I beg your
 ‘ excellency’s pardon: I shall never mention
 ‘ him more. Would you have me go
 ‘ about the child this evening; it is a little
 ‘ angel to be sure’——*This moment if you*
 ‘ think you can succeed.’——‘ I shall try at any
 ‘ rate: but there is one obstacle’——*What is*
 ‘ that? you know I never grudge money on these
 ‘ occasions. How much will do?’——‘ That
 ‘ is not the difficulty here; money will not
 ‘ do,

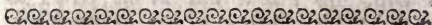
do, and I hardly know what will'——
 'Money not do? Why what the devil can it be,
 'that money will not do? — 'I scarce know
 'how to mention it to your excellency, but
 'the little cherub is neice to captain Stan-
 'dard, his sister's daughter, and while he
 'is in the way, there will be no possibility
 'of getting at her'——*Is that all? He shall*
 '*join the regiment to-morrow.*' —— 'But then
 'he will leave such an impression of your
 'unkindness upon his sister, if there is no-
 'thing done for him, after waiting so long,
 'that it will be impossible for any person
 'belonging to you to gain access.' —— '*What*
 '*would you have me do? I never will bear to*
 '*have the fellow get a company in my regiment :*
 '*that would be acknowledging the obligations he*
 '*has the impudence to say I received from his*
 '*father ; I never will bear it.*' —— 'I beg your
 'excellency's pardon ; I did not presume to
 'point out any such thing, and indeed the
 'possession of such a *baby* (though my eyes
 'never beheld her fellow) is not worth your
 'giving yourself so much trouble about ;
 'she is quite too young, though so well
 'grown' —— '*You say she is but just ten ! and*
 '*such a beauty !*' —— 'I wish your excel-
 'lency could but see her, for I am unable
 'to describe her' —— '*But cannot some way be*
 '*found out, beside fixing this fellow under my*
 'nose ?

' nose ?' — ' That was just what I was
 ' going to take the liberty of hinting to
 ' your excellency. There are several gen-
 ' tlemen of fortune, in the troops just or-
 ' dered to *America*, who have no liking to
 ' the voyage. Now I think, with submis-
 ' sion, that you would oblige some of them,
 ' with an exchange into your regiment,
 ' and let captain *Standard* go in his place.
 ' And this will oblige him too; for I have
 ' often heard him wish to go there, in
 ' hopes of rising, when they come into
 ' action.' — '*A good thought! and so I will.*
 ' *Let the fellow go to America and get scalped;*
 ' *his hot head wants to be cooled: such poor*
 ' *wretches as he are just fit to be transported*
 ' *there. Tell him to prepare directly! I long*
 ' *to be rid of him. But when shall I see the*
 ' *dear little creature?*' — 'In twenty-four
 ' hours after he is gone, I'll undertake to
 ' have her eating sugar-plumbs, and sob-
 ' bing in your bosom. It cannot possibly
 ' be sooner, for you know the captain's
 ' spirit, and that he would cut the throat
 ' of a prince, who should dishonour his
 ' family, as he calls it.' — '*Aye, damn his*
 ' *spirit, that is true; that is what has kept me*
 ' *civil to the fellow so long: I know he has all*
 ' *the romantic madness about honour, and such*
 ' *stuff,*

‘*stuff, that made his fool of a father live and die a beggar*’.

By this time his *excellency* was dressed, to go to council, for which another dram settled his head.

I *see* your surprise, at the brutal behaviour of the master, and the infamous designs of the man. The former is beyond aggravation; but the latter were only an honest artifice in favour of his friend, who had no such neice in the world.



C H A P. II.

The history of Mr. WILLIAM. Some odd circumstances in his conduct accounted for. By a progression equally polite and frugal, CHRYSAL comes from his possession into that of a celebrated female.

WILLIAM was a son of the regiment, born of one of the general wives that followed it. He was about the same age with *Standard*, who had taken such a liking to him, when they were boys, that he shared his allowance with him, gave him his old cloaths, and taught him what he learned at school. A natural acuteness of genius improved these

these advantages so well, that *William* could read and write enough for a gentleman; dance, fence, and scrape on the violin, before his friend's power of serving him was put an end to, by the death of his father; and his spirit and appetites were too great, to accept of his offer, of the best support an ensign could spare him, to maintain him as a *cadet*, till his merit should get him a commission. But though he would not accept, he did not forget the offer, nor make his obligations a cause of hatred, now that it was in his power to make some return; a way of thinking, that proved the meanness of his birth; for quitting the barren paths of military honour, he had turned his genius to the more thriving profession of a footman; through the various ascents of which, he had risen to his present rank, of his *excellency's* gentleman; in which he had the unfashionable gratitude to return the favours of his former benefactor in the above manner, which his experience and knowledge of his master's temper convinced him to be the only one he could hope to succeed in. As to his promise about the child, he was in no pain about that, there being no person who could contradict whatever excuse he should please to give.

There

There is one circumstance, which I see puzzles you, in the character of this man, and that is his taking *me* from his friend, when he must be sensible how badly he could spare such a sum. But you must consider the power of nature when strengthened by habit.

From his mother, *William* had inherited venality, which the bribery of vails, in his present profession, had confirmed beyond all possibility of correction; so that it was no more in his power to refuse a guinea when offered to him, than to change his stature or complexion. And attention to this observation would take off the wonder, and ease the world from the trouble of the exclamations that are daily made against the rapacity of persons in office, for as such are generally taken from the class of *William*, it cannot be expected but they must act from the same natural principles with him.

I see the depravity of human nature, when stripped of disguise and ornament, affects your unexperienced heart too strongly. But consider, that *we* see things as they really are, and to represent them otherwise to you, would invert the design of my mission, and confirm, rather than remove

the prejudices that lead astray the mind of man.

However, this consolation I can give you, that the vices I have already drawn, and may hereafter draw to your view, are not particular to this age or country: they are the weeds which in every age and clime, have always, and always will, over-run the human heart.

Nor is it just to call them vices (though in compliance with the language of men I do call them so) which *perhaps* are but * necessary parts of this universal system; and though in a particular instance, and viewed by themselves, they may appear deformed, yet when thrown into the general representation of things, they may have their beauty and use, if only to diversify the scene: and with respect to men in particular, be as † advantagious to the community as they are prejudicial to individuals.

But to return to my master *William*. Beside the advantages of education, he had such from nature, that he was not only the

* From hence it should seem, the hint of a late treatise, on the origin of evil, was borrowed or else dictated by the same spirit.

† Fable of the bees.

most accomplished *gentleman*, but also the handsomest fellow of his time; an happiness of which he availed himself so well in the *polite* world, that he was the favourite of all the *compliant* fair, who shared with him the pleasures they only suffered from his superiors for hire.

Of this I saw sufficient proof that very evening, when he went to an assignation with the most celebrated courtesan of the age; who sacrificing avarice to pleasure, gave orders to be denied to every body, and shut herself up with him, to give a loose to joy for the evening.

This was a scene too sensual for a spirit to describe: I shall therefore only say, that their fatigue and waste of spirits were recruited with the highest delicacies and richest wines, and the pauses of joy enlivened with the recital of the adventures of their professions, heightened with the most poignant ridicule of those whose folly was *their* fortune.

Before satiety could pall their pleasures, time summoned them to business. The fair, to prepare for the reception of her *friend*; and *my* master to wait on *his*; when, to conclude the evening with proper gallantry, he presented me to the maid at the door.

I was a good deal surpris'd, at being received with less emotion by this portress of *Venus* than I had ever found before; the sight of me having always rais'd joy. But this was soon explain'd, when, on returning to her mistress, she threw me on the table, and received a shilling in exchange. An instance of that methodical œconomy which by many small savings makes up for one large expence, and extracts profit even from pleasure.

The joy of the mistress seem'd to make amends to my vanity for the indifference of her maid, and promise me the full possession of her heart, but I soon found myself mistaken, and that her love for me was only while I was the property of another; for no sooner did I become her own, than she threw me carelessly into her purse, and turned her thoughts immediately to the acquisition of more. But though I lost the greatest part of my power over her, by coming into her possession, I still found ample room in her heart for my abode.

The apartments were scarce got in order, and my mistress new dress'd, when her *friend* appear'd, to whom she flew with all the appearance of rapture. But however he might be deceiv'd, the difference was plain to me, between the joyless caresses she
 sold

fold to him, and the extasy she shared with my late master, the glow of whose kisses yet reeked upon her lips. Nor was this strange: the ardor of her lover met her half way, and communicated as much fire as it received; but with her *keeper* the case was quite otherwise: all the advances were to come from her; all her caresses were a duty; nor were the tenderest she could bestow, able to warm him to the least return.

You wonder, that a person in such circumstances should be at the expence and trouble of *keeping* a mistress, whose extravagance was to be equalled only by her insolence. But this is only a small instance of the tyranny of fashion: and how will your astonishment be encreased, when I tell you, that this very man, in the prime of life, was remarkable for the coolness of his constitution, and now in its decline was married to a beautiful young lady, whose resentment at his conjugal neglect rose so high, as to charge it to inability, and perhaps to return it with infidelity,

Whether this was really the case, and that he *kept* my mistress to hide it, as a failing tradesman sets up a coach, or whether the passion remained, but so feebly supported, as to require the lascivious blandishments

dishments of a prostitute, I cannot determine, as I was never in his possession, to take a view of his heart.



C H A P. III.

The manner in which CHRYSAL's new mistress received and took care of her friend. How she employed herself while he was asleep. Her management of him next morning.

IT was about two in the morning when my mistress received him drunk and stupefied with play, at which he had lost deeply that night. On his coming into her room, he threw himself into a chair, without saying a word, or shewing the least sensibility of her careffes ; where after some time, he fell fast asleep, which my mistress no sooner perceived, than calling her maid to undress and roll him into bed, ‘ Here
 ‘ *Jane.* (said she) take my place, by this
 ‘ heap of mortality. I’ll step to ———
 ‘ street ; perhaps the company may not be
 ‘ all gone. Never fear, I’ll insure you
 ‘ from a rape ! He wants nothing in a bed-
 ‘ fellow but to keep him warm, and you
 ‘ may do that, while I pass my night better
 than

‘ than in nursing his infirmities; I’ll be
‘ home before he stirs’.

Jane obeyed her mistress, who slipped into a chair, and went away directly to an house, where she used to piddle away her leisure hours with any chance customers, rather than be idle.

About five ended this scene, in the rites of which my mistress bore a distinguished part. I shall not attempt to describe these mysteries: they were too gross for my relation, as well as your conception, in your present mortified habit. She then returned home, and laying her *pure* body in her maid’s place, beside her *friend*, who had not stirred yet, her fatigues soon threw her into a sleep, as sound as his.

It was noon before these fond lovers awoke: the first was my mistress, who enraged that any thing which bore the name of man, should shew so little sensibility of her charms, resolved to teize him with endearments, which, as he was seldom in a humour to return in kind, he never failed to pay for in a more substantial manner.

When she had awoke him with her toying, the *Siren* thus began her song:
‘ How can my dearest sleep so long, when
‘ his little girl lies languishing by his side!
‘ O turn, and let me lay my head on that

' dear bosom.'—*Ha! what is it a clock?*
 (replied the lover, yawning, and rubbing
 his eyes)—' Alas I know not! I have told
 ' so many tedious hours, that I've forgot
 ' them: but what is time to us, who only
 ' live to love?'—*Past 12! I must be gone!*
 '*some business*'—' Business; leave that for
 ' duller souls, who have no taste for plea-
 ' sure: can you leave love and me for busi-
 ' ness?'—*I am sorry I happened to oversleep*
 '*myself, my dear; I believe I was bewitched, to*
 '*drink so much; but we'll make it up another*
 '*time.*'—' So you say always; but that other
 ' time will never come: but I will not be
 ' served so; I am flesh and blood, what-
 ' ever other people may be; and you your-
 ' self know, it is not for want of *friends*, I
 ' keep myself up, thus like a nun, for you;
 ' and all, I do not know for what!'—*Is*
 '*the girl mad? Do not I give you every thing*
 '*you want, every thing you desire?*'—' No,
 ' nor any thing I desire! I desire now—
 ' So, you will get up and leave me: I will
 ' not be used thus: you have got some
 ' other woman? but I here give you fair
 ' warning, that I will be even with you!
 ' Sir George was here yesterday; and so
 ' was the young lord—but I would not see
 ' either of them: and I am well requited
 ' now: but I know where to send to them:

“ I will not be made a fool of every way,
 “ for nothing ; and so you may *sleep* where
 “ you please, I care not.”——“ *Come my dear,*
 “ *let us not fall out for nothing ; you have not*
 “ *shewn me the diamond ear-rings you got last*
 “ *week.*”——“ No, my dear, they are not come
 “ home.”——“ *I thought you told me they were*
 “ *finished when I gave you the money to pay for*
 “ *them.*”——“ They were so ; but when he
 “ brought them home, I did not like them.
 “ The jeweller told me, they were not so
 “ fine as those he made for your lady, some
 “ time ago ; so I sent them back, and or-
 “ dered him to make me a pair, that should
 “ be as good as her’s at least.”——“ *Not good*
 “ *enough, child ! were they not to cost 150 l.*”——
 “ And what is 150 l.—Sir *Richard* gave his
 “ girl a pair that cost 500 ; but if you think
 “ these are too dear, you are not obliged to
 “ pay for them : there is another, who will
 “ be glad to do it.”——“ *And pray what are these*
 “ *sine ones to cost ?*”——“ Why—only—but kiss
 “ me first—only 200 l. But then I have
 “ bespoke a necklace with them”——“ *Zounds,*
 “ *a diamond necklace !*”——“ And what mighty
 “ matter is a diamond necklace ? Pray has
 “ not your *wife* one ? But I see how it is ;
 “ you think any thing good enough for me ;
 “ and nothing good enough for her : but

' every one does not think so : I am not at
 ' a loss.'—' *Well, you sawcy little minx ; and*
 ' *what do they all come to ?*'—' Another kiss,
 ' and I'll tell you :—why—don't frown ;
 ' or I won't tell you at all ;—only 500 l.'—
 ' 500 devils ; *that's more than my wife's cost*
 ' *by 100.*—' And do not you love me
 ' 100 times better than your wife ? I have
 ' given up thousands for you. But, as I
 ' said before, you need not pay for them,
 ' if you do not chuse it : there are others
 ' who will : I see I am slighted ; and I de-
 ' serve it, for slighting so many good of-
 ' fers : but I will not always be a fool !'—
 ' *Well, my dear, for this one time I will humour*
 ' *you : give me the pen and ink : but you must*
 ' *not expect that I shall ever gratify your extra-*
 ' *vagance so far again :*'—' I thank you, my
 ' lord ; I shall not trouble you again this
 ' great while. But what is this ? 350 l. !
 ' you have made a mistake, my lord ; I
 ' told you 500 l.'—' *Well child, did I not*
 ' *give you 150 to pay for the other pair ?*'—
 ' Yes, my lord ; but that was not to pay
 ' for this pair though, you know these are
 ' dearer.'—*But that and this will.*—' I am
 ' afraid not.'—' *How so, child ; do not 150 and*
 ' *350 make 500 ?*'—' Indeed I am a poor ac-
 ' countant ; but I know it will not do.'—

' No !

' No! why so; I do not understand you: '—' I'll
 ' kiss you first, and then I'll tell you. '—
 ' Psha; cease fooling; I am in haste; I must
 ' go to court; and have scarce time to dress;
 ' where is the 150 l. ? '—' There (kissing
 ' him) '—' Where ? '—' Gone, as that kiss is;
 ' all gone, and only the relish left behind,
 ' to give an appetite for more. '—' Infernal
 ' jade ! ' (aside) —' What do you say, my
 ' lord ? '—' That I cannot, will not bear such
 ' extravagance. '—' I am glad I know your
 ' mind, my lord: then if you do not,
 ' somebody else will, who will not make
 ' such a stir about trifles. '—' Well, give me
 ' that bill. '—' No, thank you, my dear. '—
 ' Why so ? '—' For fear you should be a
 ' bold boy, and not return it. If you,
 ' please to give me the other 150 l. I'll get
 ' the necklace and earrings; if not, this
 ' will serve for some other use. '—' Dam-
 ' nation! and then I must give it to her all over
 ' again ' (aside). —' Well, my lord; you said
 ' you were in haste, and so am I. '—' Give
 ' me the pen and Ink: there it is you little ter-
 ' magant: but once more let me caution you
 ' against such extravagance for the future. '—
 ' And once more, let me tell you, my lord,
 ' not to give yourself such airs: extrava-
 ' gance! they that will have delicacies,
 ' must pay for them: and if you think the

‘ price too dear, there are more customers
 ‘ in the market; and so, my lord, like it,
 ‘ or like it not, I will be supported; and
 ‘ more than that, what I want in pleasure,
 ‘ shall be made up in profit: let wives
 ‘ save, who may be the better for the sa-
 ‘ vings, *our* business is to make hay while
 ‘ the sun shines.’—‘ Come, my dear; let us
 ‘ have no disputes: you have the money now;
 ‘ next time we will clear off the other score: give
 ‘ me a kiss, I’ll call in the evening, and take a
 ‘ dish of tea with you: farewell’——‘ Good
 ‘ morrow——(after he is gone) for an old
 ‘ impotent, poor-spirited lecher, that must
 ‘ be treated like a dog, to make you know
 ‘ your duty. What fool would ever be at
 ‘ the trouble of behaving well to any fel-
 ‘ low, when she can, so much better,
 ‘ mould him to her pleasure by ill usage?’

C H A P. IV.

The history and character of CHRYSAL's mistress. She gives him to a noted matron. Some account of his new mistress, and her manner of managing her family.

THIS principle she acted up to, for two days that I was in her possession, without any other variation in her conduct, than just what was necessary to work on the various tempers of her lovers, making no real difference between them, except it was, that she always used those worst, who used her best.

I have often told you, that sensuality is disagreeable to a spiritual being. I therefore longed to quit this mistress, the succession of whose amours was so constant and quick, that I was astonished how nature could afford a fund of love for them all, in so young a creature, for she was not 20 years old.—I see you have a curiosity to know the history of this young votary of Venus, in which you think there must be something extraordinary: but you are deceived;

ceived ; it contains nothing but common occurrences.

She was the daughter of tradespeople, in moderate circumstances, whose foolish fondness, because she was a pretty, smart child, gave her an education above her rank, in hopes of her making her fortune by marriage.

This raised the vanity, natural to the female heart, so high, that she despised her own station, and not being so fortunate as immediately to climb to the one she desired, by the way proposed, she fell an easy victim to the first seducer who promised it, in any other.

Thus the accomplishments, by which the injudicious tenderness of her parents meant to raise her into a rank higher than their own, became the cause of her falling into that of the lowest of all human beings : a fall, though deplorable in itself, yet un-affecting to her, as the time, in which her mind should have been formed to virtue, was given up to the nourishing that vanity which proved her ruin ; so that she is absolutely insensible of the wretchedness of her condition, and never has the pursuit of her most infamous profession disturbed by a moment's remorse.

I told you of her spending the hours that were unemploy'd at home, at an house in ——— street, where she was always sure of business. Though this venerable mansion was dedicated to the mysterious rites of unrestrained love, yet as the priests of all temples expect to live by the offerings made at them, her conscience would not permit the priestesses of this to break through an ordinance, so long established, and she exacted fees from the votaries of her's: not indeed a tythe, indiscriminately from all, whether they received benefit from their devotion, or not; but always in proportion to the fruits they reaped.

At this shrine was I offered, the third night of my being in the possession of this young devotee, when the plenteousness of her gain, from a multitude of lovers, seemed, to her piety, to merit so rich a return.

I now entered into a much more extensive scene than my last, the prostitution of which made but a small part of the business of the profession. But what I have related in the history of my late mistress, shall suffice for that branch, nor shall I give more than some outlines of the horrors of the rest.

My

My new mistress had originally been of the sisterhood of my last, who having fallen a prey to lust, almost in her infancy, and having no beauty, nor any thing but extreme youth, to recommend her, as soon as that was worn out, neglect obliged her to apply to other business for bread, and her natural turn determining her to this, as well as the outrageous virtue of the *undiscovered* part of her own sex, excluding her from every other, she changed her occupation, from *yielding*, to *providing* pleasure, in which her success was so great, that she soon became the most eminent of her profession.

It was near five in the morning, when I changed my service; and business being ended, my late mistress having reigned *sole mistress* of the night, and seen out all the company, there remained nothing to do, after she went home, but to see the inmates to their truckle-beds in the cock lofts, where stripping off every part, not only of the finery, but even of the comforts of dress, they were crowded three or four together, to keep each other warm, under a ragged coverlet, upon a bare mattress, where their shudderings and groans made a just contrast to the spirited wickedness of their conversation some hours before.

This.

This was always the fate of those who were not so successful in the evening as to earn the price of a better bed, above the fees of the house, and hire of cloaths.

These happy few were treated with fondness, while they squandered their poor *peculium* in a drop of cordial to settle their heads, and were lodged in apartments suited to their purses; though the night before perhaps they had experienced the same fate with their sisters above stairs, and knew they must expect it again the next, if unsuccessful in their business.

When matters were thus settled, this happy family disposed themselves to take the best repose which disease in mind and body would permit.

An active spirit disdains rest. Though debauchery had anticipated old age, in the constitution of my mistress, yet her application to business, made her refuse nature even necessary indulgence. She was ready to go out before ten that morning, when the modest decency of her dress and appearance were such as drew the general good opinion, and would almost deceive the *devil* himself, on whose most favourite service she was going.



C H A P. V.

CHRYSAL's mistress pays a visit to the last place she could have been suspected for going to. She meets a young lady, with whom, by an artifice, she goes home. Her schemes to ensnare the lady.

IF a judgment were to be formed for the whole day, from the manner of beginning it, my mistress should have spent her's most happily; her first visit being to church, where the piety of her behaviour was an edification to the devout matrons, who having nothing to do at home, meet there regularly, to compare their aches and dreams of the night before, and enjoy the innocent amusement of a little gossiping over the affairs of their neighbours.

But her devotion wasted not itself so fruitlessly: her industry had formed expectations of drawing considerable advantage from it, and so anticipating futurity, and making sure of the reward here, which others waited for in another world.—The immediate motive of her devotion, this morning, was to see a young lady with whom

whom she had commenced an acquaintance at this church, and who constantly attended divine service there. You are surprized how she could think of going to such a place, on such an errand; but the wolfe roams about for prey every where, and is often most successful, where his attempts are least suspected: though I must rob her industry of the merit of design in the first introduction to this affair.

Going through *St. Martin's Lane* one morning, about a month before, she was so struck with the appearance of a lovely young creature, in widdow's-weeds, who was going into the church, that she followed her; where the fervency, with which she poured out her soul in devotion, gave such a lustre to her beauty, and made it shine so lovely through her grief, that my mistress immediately marked her for her *list*, not doubting but she should be able to turn her distress to such advantage, as should bring her into her measures, and make her beauty yield her a rich return for her pains, from some of her customers. If you consider the nature of woman-kind, you will not wonder at this instance of the profligacy of my mistress. They are ever in extremes; either the best or worst of human creatures.— From church she dogged her to her lodging,

ing, in a little court, where she lived with a poor, but honest family, in such privacy, that no one in the neighbourhood could give any account of her.

Real virtue shines with a lustre that dazzles the most confirmed vice, and keeps it at an awful distance. My mistress, hardened as she was in all the ways of sin and impudence, dared not to go directly to her without some business or introduction: but as she had not either, her ready genius prompted her to win her good opinion, under an appearance of religion, and then an acquaintance would come easily.

She was not deceived in her expectations: a few morning's constant attendance at church, and the exemplary warmth of her devotions, struck the eye, and opened the heart of unexperienced innocence to the acquaintance she wished for, which she did not fail to improve, by the same arts, to some degree of intimacy.

In this situation they were, when she went, but without any appearance of design, to meet her this morning at church, as usual. As they came out together, my mistress, turning with her fair friend, said she had some business into *Long-Acre*, and asked her, if she went that way, to which the young lady innocently answered, that she
did,

did, and should be glad to walk with her.

As they walked together, my mistress turned her conversation on the wicked ways of the town, and particularly the many base designs that were laid to insnare unwary innocence, adding, that all the pleasure which sensuality could give the most luxurious heart, must fall infinitely short of what she felt at that very moment, in the design she was then going upon, of relieving the distresses of a worthy family.

She had timed her discourse so as to say these words, just as she came to the entrance of the court, in which she knew the widow lived, when, feigning to slip, she fell all along, crying out, as in the utmost agony, that she had wrenched her ankle.

The lady, raising her with the greatest tenderness, expressed her concern for the unhappy accident, and desired she would submit to be helped into *her* lodgings, which fortunately were at the next door, where, though she could be but poorly accommodated, she might be more at her ease, than in a more sumptuous place, and should have all the care in her power. This was just what my mistress had schemed for, who courteously accepting of the offer, made

made a shift to limp in, without any other assistance than her's.

It raised my indignation to see the tenderness with which the beautiful young creature pulled off her shoe and stocking, and chafed her ankle, thrown away upon so unworthy an object, as it did my abhorrence to hear the counterfeit shrieks and groans of my mistress, and the assurance with which she attributed the swellings caused by debauchery, to this immediate accident.

This affrighted the young lady so, that she in a manner forced her to send for a surgeon, which with much intreaty she yielded to do, but it must be for a *friend* of her own, a gentleman who lived a considerable way off, at the polite end of the town, for she could not think of letting any *common low-lived* fellow come near her.

Upon this, a porter was directly dispatched for her *own* surgeon, and in the mean time, as she began to grow easier, she recovered her spirits, and renewed the conversation that had been broken off by this accident.

‘ I was telling you, my dear friend (said she) for so I shall ever call you from this moment, your kindness having completed the conquest which your beauty
‘ had

‘ had before made of my heart, I was tel-
‘ ling you, that I was going to visit a fa-
‘ mily this morning, where I promised my-
‘ self the highest joy that a human heart is
‘ capable of feeling, in lightening the di-
‘ stress of the virtuous, by sharing with
‘ them some of that wealth which heaven
‘ has abundantly blessed me with, and
‘ which can justly be applied to no other
‘ use, than making this grateful return to
‘ that goodness which bestowed it.

‘ But my heart was too elate with the
‘ thought, and I receive this accident as a
‘ caution from heaven not to flatter myself
‘ with any thing so strongly for the future.
‘ But though I could not have this plea-
‘ sure myself, the benefit shall not be de-
‘ layed to them. I will make you my *al-*
‘ *moner* ; an office that I know will suit the
‘ goodness of your heart. You shall give
‘ this packet, which will put an end to all
‘ their distresses’

‘ Oh madam ! your good opinion is the
‘ greatest honour to me (replied the lady)
‘ and I hope I shall never forfeit it, espe-
‘ cially in this commission, which I shall
‘ undertake with the most sincere joy ; but
‘ pray dear madam who are the persons to
‘ whom I must dispense your goodness ?’

‘ That

‘ That’s true, my dear (returned my mi-
‘ strefs) I should give you some account of
‘ them, that you may be the better able to
‘ judge of the joy I feel in serving them.
‘ It is the widow of an officer, who has
‘ been killed in this war, and left her with
‘ three poor babes, destitute of every sup-
‘ port, but the allowance of the govern-
‘ ment, which, wretched as it is, and only
‘ aggravating misery by barely prolonging
‘ life under it, is often gasped for by the
‘ hungry mouth in vain, where interest is
‘ wanting to procure the immediate relief
‘ of it, as was her unhappy case, so that
‘ they must have actually perished for want
‘ of food, had not providence brought them
‘ into my knowledge, seemingly by the
‘ greatest accident, about six months ago,
‘ since when, I have myself afforded them
‘ the necessary comforts of life, and have
‘ also made such interest for them, with
‘ some of my friends, that I have here got
‘ them a grant of a pension, on the *Irish*
‘ *establishment*, sufficient to bring up the
‘ children, and make the remainder of the
‘ mother’s days happy; for, my dear, I
‘ never do any thing by halves—Good God,
‘ child! what is the matter with you?
‘ what do you weep so for?—

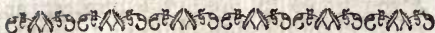
‘ No-

‘ Nothing, dear madam (replied the lady) nothing; I only sympathize in the distress of the poor widow’. — ‘ But, my dear, that distress is now as an end.’ — ‘ O madam, let me carry her the blessing! let me not delay her happiness a moment! Who knows but her heart is this minute bursting with the dreadful apprehensions, of want for herself, and her dearer infants! — ‘ With all my heart madam; but you will please to order a chair to be called to carry me home, when you go; for I cannot stay here alone.’ — ‘ Dear madam, forgive my rudeness; I beg your pardon, pray forgive me: the distress of the widow put every thing out of my head; indeed it did; pray excuse me.’ — ‘ Excuse you, my dear, I honour the heart that feels another’s woe; you shall go directly; you shall be the messenger of glad tidings to them. But my dearest young lady, give me leave to tell you, that I fear you have not answered me sincerely; I fear your tears flow from some other cause, than mere sympathy; speak, my child! does any thing affect your own heart? Can I any way be serviceable to you? Command me freely, and make me happy in serving one for whom my heart has conceived so tender an esteem! Speak as

Vol. I. I you

‘ you would to your own mother, and
‘ wrong not my friendship with a doubt.’—
‘ O madam, madam! (replied the mourner,
‘ as soon as sobbing permitted utterance)
‘ I have no mother to make my complaint to ;
‘ I am the wretched widow you have described!
‘ A widow without support, without friends,
‘ or any other hope, than just in heaven!’—
‘ And heaven will raise you friends, my
‘ dearest child ! heaven has raised you a
‘ friend in me ! You shall be *my* child ! I
‘ look upon you as my own ! as a gift
‘ from heaven, from this moment ! You
‘ shall leave this place this very day ! it is
‘ not fit for *my* child ! I will take a lodging
‘ for you, near myself, till *my* nephew,
‘ who is lately come to town to see me,
‘ goes home ; and then you shall live with
‘ me for ever.’

Saying these words, she threw her arms round her destined victim, and wiped away the tears that flowed down her cheeks, while a variety of passions filled her tender heart almost to bursting.



C H A P. VI.

The history of the young lady. She is critically interrupted by the arrival of an unexpected person. She is reconciled to her father, who rewards the woman of the house, and resolves to punish the bawd.

WHEN she had recovered herself a little, my mistress thus resumed her lore; ‘Weep not my dearest child, all will be well. And have you any dear little infants too?’—‘Oh no! my wretchedness, thank heaven, is all my own!’—‘But may I, my dear, ask your name, and the circumstances of your story! I would know all, that nothing may be undressed.’——‘You are all goodness, madam! My story, alas, has few circumstances, and they are all distresses! I lost my mother while I was yet a child: my father left me in the country to the care of a governess, the wife of his chaplain, who educated me in the sentiments of piety and virtue. When I was scarce fourteen, I returned the love of her son, the most deserving and most lovely of his sex, who was two

I 2

‘ years

‘ years older than me : but young as we were,
 ‘ we concealed our passion, till my father ob-
 ‘ tained him a commission in the army ; when,
 ‘ on the regiment’s being ordered to America,
 ‘ I yielded to his fears of losing me, and con-
 ‘ sented to a private marriage, which was
 ‘ soon discovered by a letter’s falling into my
 ‘ father’s hands, who in his rage, turned my
 ‘ husband’s father and mother, and me, out of
 ‘ doors, nor would ever see us more. A small
 ‘ vicarage afforded us a present support. My
 ‘ mother-in-law soon died ; the suspicion of
 ‘ her having betrayed the confidence of my fa-
 ‘ ther, and been instrumental in my marriage,
 ‘ breaking her heart ; as did the account of
 ‘ my husband’s death, his father’s. I then
 ‘ was left quite destitute ; and have since sup-
 ‘ ported a wretched being, by my work, which
 ‘ the honest woman of this house takes in for
 ‘ me, without the least hope of relief in this
 ‘ world, till your goodness has, this day taken
 ‘ compassion on me.’——‘ And what is your
 ‘ father’s name, my dear’——‘ That I have
 ‘ never yet revealed, as I would willingly hide
 ‘ the disgrace, my distress may be thought to him ;
 ‘ but with you I need not use that caution ; his
 ‘ name is’——

Just at this word, the surgeon, who had
 been sent for, to my mistress, entered, and
 presented a new scene.

At

At the first sight of this person, the young lady gave a great shriek, and swooned away. The gentleman stood a moment stupified with astonishment, when turning hastily to my mistress, 'Is this the lady?' (said he, — 'Aye, and a lovely one she is (answered she) but help me to raise her up, when you will see her better; she has been just telling me her story, and the grief of it has over come her! it is a moving one; and she must be our own.'——

'*Oh, my child! my child!*' (exclaimed he in a transport) and spurning my mistress from her with his foot, raised her himself, and leaned her head upon his bosom, kissing her, and almost smothering her with his tears. '*Oh my poor child! what have you escaped! what have you endured!*'

It is impossible to describe the situation of my mistress at this scene. She saw the error she had been guilty of, in introducing a woman to whom she was a stranger; and was aware of the danger, with which the horror of such an interview on such an occasion, threatened her. While therefore the father seemed wrap'd in an extasy, that made him as insensible as his daughter, she thought it her best way to retire from the first burst of his anger, and forgetting her sprained ankle, was going directly away;

but he perceived her intent, and calling her with a voice, that nailed her to the ground, 'stir not, upon your life (said he) I will have this whole mystery cleared up.'

His daughter, just then, opening her eyes, and finding herself laid upon her father's bosom, love, respect, duty, fear, and joy, filled her heart with such a variety of passions, that she sunk under their weight, and swooned again.

This embarrassed the father almost to distraction, till the woman of the house coming in, with her assistance she was at length recovered, for my mistress was so terrified, that she did not dare to approach her.

As soon as the lady had lightened her heart by a flood of tears, she threw herself at her father's feet, unable either to look up, or speak to him. Moved with the mute eloquence of her grief, and melting in the warmth of nature, he raised her from the ground, and spoke to her in these words.

'Be comforted, my child! I am! I will be your father! But tell me what has passed between you and this vile woman!'

—'Ob sir, is she not my best, my only friend?

'Has she not restored me to your love?'—

'Have a care child! she your friend!

'then you are lost beyond recovery indeed!

‘ deed! She is a reproach to her sex! to
‘ human nature!’——‘*Ob sir! how can*
‘ *that be? did she not bring you here, to me?*
‘ *does not that shew her virtue, and compassion*
‘ *to my distress?*—‘ Compose yourself a little,
‘ child! it is true, she brought me here;
‘ but tell me, I charge you, on what terms
‘ she told you, I was to come; and how she
‘ came to interest herself in your affairs!
‘ Fear not, but speak the truth.’

On this she told him the whole of her acquaintance with my mistress, and by what accident, and in what character she imagined he had been sent for; but that, as soon as she saw *him* enter the room, she thought my mistress must have been acquainted with her story, and had taken this method of introducing her to him, in hopes the surprize, and sight at her distress, might operate on his compassion.

Truth forces conviction. He was satisfied with the account she gave him; and taking her again in his arms, ‘ I have found
‘ you again, my child (said he) and I will
‘ never lose you more! Be the errors of
‘ your youth; be my severity forgotten!
‘ From henceforth you are *my* child, and I
‘ will be *your* father! as to that vile wretch,
‘ know, that her whole acquaintance, with
‘ you, was sought with a premeditated de-

‘ sign of betraying you to ruin. She told
‘ me the whole, nearly as you have done ;
‘ and encouraged by your distress, of which
‘ she had gotten some general hints, but
‘ ignorant who you were, she laid the
‘ scheme of this pretended accident, to
‘ get admision into your house ; for she
‘ well knew where you lived ; and then sent
‘ for me to a place I had appointed, that I
‘ might come and see you, under the ap-
‘ pearance of a surgeon ; that if I liked you,
‘ I might have the preference of her inte-
‘ rest in you : for so deep had she laid her
‘ scheme, that you could not have escaped
‘ her : the trial would have been too great
‘ for human fortitude ! and this most exe-
‘ crable mystery of iniquity did she under-
‘ take for the paultry reward of 50l. which
‘ I must take the shame upon myself to
‘ own, I had promised her, little imagining
‘ that I was bargaining for the seduction of
‘ my own innocent child. But I see, I ac-
‘ knowledge the hand of heaven in this
‘ whole affair, that has thus opened my
‘ eyes to the danger of such a licentious
‘ course of life, and made the recovery of
‘ my child the means, and the reward of my
‘ conversion !

‘ Weep not, my dear ; justly may you
‘ turn your eyes with detestation from such

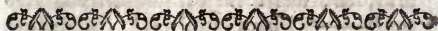
‘ a fiend: But I shall take care that she
‘ meets a just reward; while you prepare
‘ to go home with me, for I will not leave
‘ you a moment in this scene of horror.’—
‘ Oh, mercy, mercy, my lord! (cried my
‘ mistress) have mercy on me! nor over-
‘ whelm with your anger a wretched crea-
‘ ture, whose remorse is a load too great to
‘ bear.’—‘ Away vile wretch (replied he,
‘ in a rage) nor dare to speak another word!
‘ and here fellow (calling to the porter who
‘ had directed him to the house) bring me
‘ the parish constable.’

While the porter went for him, my mis-
tress, wretched now indeed, her guilty fear
magnifying her danger, stood trembling,
but afraid to essay his pity with another
word.

After he had walked a turn or two about
the room, his daughter entered, and with
her the woman of the house with her little
effects, which were soon packed up; at the
sight of them his countenance softened:
‘ well, my dear, (said he to his daughter)
‘ I see you are ready to come with me;
‘ but I must wait a moment to do justice to
‘ the wretch who brought me hither.
‘ Plead not for her! I would not have you
‘ ever sue to me in vain, again; and any
‘ thing in her favour I cannot yield! But

‘ my justice shall not be only severe, nor
‘ confined to her alone. You have said
‘ that this honest woman has been a friend
‘ to you! she shall be rewarded. Here,
‘ good-woman, is the sum of money I was
‘ to have given this vile creature for my
‘ daughter, in another sense. Take it, as
‘ the reward of your honesty and kindness
‘ to her; and call on her, every year of
‘ your life for the same sum.

The poor woman took it, with a reverence, but was unable to speak her gratitude, her heart was so full, while his daughter dropped suddenly on her knees, and raising her hands and eyes to heaven, exclaimed in rapture, *Oh pour thy blessings, heaven, on his head, who thus dispenses happiness on all who merit it.*—As she said these words, the constable came, into whose charge his lordship gave my mistress, to be taken to a justice of the peace, whither he appointed to follow her; and then handed his daughter into a coach, in which he took her directly home.



C H A P. VII.

The address of CHRYSAL's mistress, and civility of a constable. She arrives at the justice's, and is sifted and softened by his clerk, and terrified by his worship. CHRYSAL changes his service.

AS soon as this happy couple were gone, my mistress recovered her spirits, and smiled with contempt, at a danger she had often gone through before, without harm. ' And so (says she) master constable; I am given in charge to you! and for what pray? But I am no such novice, as to yield myself a prisoner, till I see proper authority to hold me; therefore, Sir, I shall wish you a good morning: if you please, you may go tell his lordship, that I was not at leisure to wait for him, at the justice's; and because you may be dry after your walk, here is a crown to drink my health.'

' I thank you mistress (replied the magistrate, taking the money) but in the mean time, you must come! I am sorry I cannot let you go.' — ' Cannot let me go!

‘ pray, Sir, where is your authority to keep
 ‘ me?’——‘ Here, mistress! (producing
 ‘ his staff)’——‘ But your warrant?’——
 ‘ Oh! as for that, I’ll make bold to do
 ‘ without one this time; and take you to
 ‘ the justice on my own authority, and his
 ‘ lordship’s request; and so, mistress, you
 ‘ had better come along, for I am in haste:
 ‘ you may have a coach if you please.’——
 ‘ Aye, so I will, to carry me home; and here’s
 ‘ something for you to pay the coachman (put
 ‘ ting a guinea into his hand)’——‘ Tis
 ‘ very well, mistress, I will see you safe
 ‘ home, to be sure, if you desire it; and
 ‘ the justice gives you leave; for to him
 ‘ we must go directly.’——‘ Then give me
 ‘ my money; and be assured you shall answer for
 ‘ this false imprisonment.’——‘ Your money,
 ‘ mistress! why, aye! so I will, if I do not
 ‘ earn it.’——‘ Then let me go home this
 ‘ moment.’——‘ No, no, mistress! that I
 ‘ cannot do, till you have been to visit his
 ‘ worship; and then I will see you safe
 ‘ home, if he gives me leave, and drink
 ‘ your health into the bargain; and that
 ‘ was what you gave me the money for:
 ‘ come, come, mistress! one of your trade
 ‘ should know better things, than to ask
 ‘ for money back again! Have I not
 ‘ shewed

‘ shewed you all the *civility* in my power ?
‘ Do you think I would stand preaching
‘ with you here this hour for nothing !
‘ come along, the coach is at the door.’

I *saw* you were surprized at the address and turn of expression in my mistress’s conversation with this young lady, before the arrival of her father, as above her sphere ; but nature had given her a capacity equal to any thing, and her intercourse, with the *polite* world, had gained her an ease of behaviour, and elegance of expression, that made every condition of life seem natural to her. As to the story of the family, whom she was going to relieve, she had actually prepared one of her confederates to have acted that part, so that the lord might justly say, her design was laid so well, that it was next to impossible for her to miss of success. For by this deceit she would have gained the young Lady’s confidence, to receive favours from her, and when she had her in her debt, she thought she could make her own terms.

As soon as my mistress and her conductor were come into the antichamber of justice, the clerk recognizing her, addressed her thus : ‘ Good-morrow, mistress—Pray
‘ what has got us the favour of your com-
‘ pany ? You have been so great a stranger
of

‘ of late, that I was beginning to think we
 ‘ had lost you,’——‘ Pray Sir (said she)
 ‘ let me speak a word with you in the next
 ‘ room.’——On which he ordered her to
 be shewn in, and only waited to ask the
 constable, by whom, and for what she was
 sent there, who was able to give him no
 other answer, than that the lord had ordered
 him to bring her, and said he would follow
 himself directly.

Having got this *full* information, the
 clerk came into the room to my mistress,
 and told her, with a look of importance
 and concern, that he was sorry to see her,
 on so bad an account.——‘ So bad an ac-
 ‘ count, Sir? (said she) why! pray what
 ‘ do you think I am brought here for?
 ‘ nothing in this world! they can charge
 ‘ me with nothing but intention; and I
 ‘ hope that is not punishable by the law!’
 ——‘ I hope it will appear so (replied he)
 ‘ but (shrugging up his shoulders) my
 ‘ lord has sent a message here, that has
 ‘ another appearance!’——‘ *And pray, Sir,*
 ‘ *what does my lord charge me with?*’——
 ‘ You’ll excuse my revealing the secrets of
 ‘ a privy counsellor! He will be here too
 ‘ soon, I am afraid, to tell you himself.’

Verfed as my mistress was in all the wiles
 of man, the look and manner of his saying
 these

these words, alarmed her conscious fears.
‘ Pray Sir (said she) what has his lordship
‘ said? or, if you do not think proper to
‘ tell me that; at least, you can direct me
‘ how to make the best defence against
‘ his designs! I shall not be ungrateful!
‘ you know I never was.’——‘ Why that’s
‘ true, madam (replied he) and indeed I
‘ should take great pleasure in serving you,
‘ and getting you out of this *hole*, but my
‘ lord, you know, is a great man, and can,
‘ in a manner, do what he pleases with
‘ poor people.’——‘ Pray, Sir, can I speak a
‘ word to the justice?’——‘ I fear he is en-
‘ gaged just now; besides, it is so long
‘ since he has seen or heard from you, that
‘ I believe you must expect but little favour
‘ from him.’——‘ *Why that is the very thing*
‘ *I would speak to him about; and believe me,*
‘ *it was my business out so early this morning,*
‘ *till I was delayed by this unlucky accident.*’
——‘ As for that matter, you know you
‘ may say any thing to me, as well as to
‘ him, and I can tell him.’——‘ *That is*
‘ *true; why, all I have to say to him at pre-*
‘ *sent, is to beg his acceptance of these five gui-*
‘ *neas for his past favours, and his advice how*
‘ *to get out of this scrape; and pray do you*
‘ *take these three for your trouble. I am sorry*
‘ *I have no more to offer, but really the times*
‘ *are*

‘ are very bad, and little or no money stirring
 ‘ among the gentlemen; beside, all my ladies
 ‘ have been very unlucky of late, and the doc-
 ‘ tor, you know, must be always paid in hand.’

—— ‘ I am sorry things go so badly with
 ‘ you; I will speak to the justice, and let
 ‘ you know what he says, and you may
 ‘ depend on my friendship and interest at all
 ‘ times; though I am afraid this is a very
 ‘ bad affair. I will go to him directly, and
 ‘ return to you, as soon as possible.’

I here left my mistress to her meditations, having been one of the pieces she had given to the clerk. You may imagine I was glad to leave such a service, though I could not promise myself much pleasure, beside variety, in the exchange, from what I had already seen of that, which I was entering into.

The justice was in his office, busied in examining the informations of some of his people, who had made some lucky *bites* the evening before. On a wink from his clerk, they were all ordered to withdraw, when reaching *me*, and four more of my brethren, to his worship; ‘ here, Sir (said he) five
 ‘ guineas from Mrs. ——!’ —— ‘ So
 ‘ then, (replied he) *she has thought pro-*
 ‘ *per to come at last.*’ —— ‘ To come?
 ‘ no, no, Sir! she has been brought, or
 ‘ else

‘ else I believe you would have hardly seen
 ‘ her.’——‘ *The ungrateful jade: but what
 ‘ is the matter now?*’——‘ I really cannot
 ‘ well tell; nor does the constable know
 ‘ any more, than that my lord —— or-
 ‘ dered him to bring her, and said that he
 ‘ should follow himself.’——‘ *My lord? then
 ‘ I must be ready to receive him properly: He
 ‘ is a great man: quick! reach me my green
 ‘ velvet cap, red slippers, and new gown, and
 ‘ open half a score of those books, the largest of
 ‘ them, and lay them on that great table, as if
 ‘ I had been referring. There! now I look
 ‘ like a justice! and bid those gentry, I was
 ‘ speaking to, go backwards till my lord is
 ‘ gone: He must not see such faces; they might
 ‘ prejudice him against us; and he is a great
 ‘ man: so! now I’ll open the NEW JUSTICE,
 ‘ and his lordship may come as soon as he
 ‘ pleases.’*

Just as all things were thus prepared for
 his lordship’s reception, in proper forma-
 lity, a servant brought a note from him, to
 let his worship know, he could not come
 himself that morning, but desired he would
 take proper care of the woman he had or-
 dered to be taken before him, who kept an
 house of bad fame in such a street, where,
 upon the least enquiry, he would not fail to
 find

find sufficient matter against her, from her neighbours.

Though his lordship's not coming was a disappointment, to his worship, after the preparations he had made to receive him; and baulked him of an important advertisement for the next morning, yet the general wording of his note gave him some consolation, as it might seem to authorize any measures he might please to take, to squeeze the criminal before him.—‘ This may do (said he to his clerk) this may do something: but we must proceed with caution, for Mrs. ——— is an old *band*: let her be called in; I'll *soften* her a little first, and then you may work upon her after as you please.’

As soon as she came in, his worship accosted her thus:—‘ So, mistress; this is a fine affair; I knew what your doings would come to, at last; I have often warned you; but you would take no advice; and now you see the consequence!—Do, make her *mittimus*! I must wait upon his lordship; and I cannot go till she is committed!’—‘ *Committed!* dear your worship, for what must I be committed? I have done nothing.’—‘ No! to be sure you have done nothing! his lordship would prosecute you so severely for nothing: Look
‘ at

‘ at this letter! do you know this hand-
 ‘ writing? His lordship has here given me
 ‘ an account of the whole affair, and de-
 ‘ fired that I would proceed against you,
 ‘ with the utmost rigour of the law!
 ‘ I have already sent to search your
 ‘ house.’

This word completed the terrors, into which the sight of his lordship’s well-known hand had thrown her; and deprived her of all resolution and presence of mind. She burst into tears, and throwing herself on her knees, ‘ Oh, good your worship! dear
 ‘ Mr. Clerk (said she) advise me: assist
 ‘ me to get over this misfortune! here is
 ‘ my watch; it cost 50*l.* at a pawn-bro-
 ‘ ker’s but a month ago; it is a repeater!
 ‘ take it, Mr. Justice! Mr. Clerk, here
 ‘ are my rings! they are the only valuable
 ‘ things I have: take them, and help me
 ‘ out at this dead lift: send, and stop the
 ‘ people from going into my poor house;
 ‘ I shall be *blown up!* the gentlemen will
 ‘ all desert me: I shall be ruined, just
 ‘ when I have brought things to a little
 ‘ bearing: help me but this once, and I
 ‘ never will give you cause to complain of
 ‘ me again: I will always be punctual to
 ‘ my promise.’



C H A P. VIII.

She is discharged on proper bail. The labours of CHRYSAL's new master, in the service of the public, with some of the various mysteries of his office

THE work was now done, and a wink having settled the *cue* between the justice and his clerk, the latter began thus :
 ‘ If I may presume to advise your worship,
 ‘ though this is a very bad affair to be
 ‘ sure, yet as it is not quite felony, *by the*
 ‘ *statute*, I am humbly of opinion, that if
 ‘ bail could be got’—‘ *Dear Mr. clerk, I am*
 ‘ *obliged to you.*’—‘ But then consider, my
 ‘ Lord is a great man.’—‘ That is true,
 ‘ please you worship ; but the law is greater
 ‘ than any man, and the law is very tender
 ‘ of the liberty of the subject, and says ex-
 ‘ pressly *in the statute In favore libertis*, that
 ‘ no person shall be confined that can get
 ‘ bail ; and beside, who knows, if she was
 ‘ at liberty, but she might find means to
 ‘ be reconciled to his lordship ; and so all
 ‘ would be well.’—‘ *Dear Mr. clerk, that*
 ‘ *is true ; I could easily be reconciled to him ;*
 ‘ I

‘ *I know how to gain his favour, when his
 ‘ anger is a little cooled.*’—‘ Why, Mrs. if
 ‘ you are quite sure of that, I believe we
 ‘ may venture to bail you: but where are
 ‘ your friends?’—‘ *Dear your worship, I
 ‘ have no friends; I have nothing to make
 ‘ friends with; I throw myself upon you, gen-
 ‘ tlemen!*’—‘ Why really this is a nice case,
 ‘ but if you’ll step into the next room, we
 ‘ will consider what can be done for you.’
 —‘ *Oh! but send and stop the men that went
 ‘ to my house!*’—‘ Never fear, they were
 ‘ not to go without further orders.’

When she was gone out, ‘ Well (said
 ‘ the justice) this has been a good *hit*, it
 ‘ makes up for the bad week: but cannot
 ‘ you guess what this matter is?’—‘ Not a
 ‘ word of it (replied the clerk) she has not
 ‘ dropped a syllable herself, that could let
 ‘ me the least into it, and I would not dis-
 ‘ cover my ignorance by asking her any
 ‘ questions. But I suppose it is only some
 ‘ trick she has played my lord, about a
 ‘ girl, for you know she has often told us,
 ‘ that he was one of her best customers,
 ‘ and boasted of his protection; and if it is
 ‘ no more than that, as I imagine, he will
 ‘ think no more of it, and so the best way
 ‘ is to let her go, for indeed we cannot
 ‘ keep her, if we would; though to keep
 ‘ up

‘ up the form, for fear she should *smell* us
 ‘ out, she must have some bail : and there-
 ‘ fore I’ll go and fill a bond, and make a
 ‘ couple of our people put on their BAIL-
 ‘ ING CLOATHS, and come and sign with
 ‘ her, though I do not think she has mo-
 ‘ ney left to pay for the bond, or make the
 ‘ fellows drink : but she has done pretty
 ‘ well already, that is the truth.’

Saying this, he went out, and in a little
 time returned with my late mistress, and
 two of the fellows, the shabbiness of whose
 appearance had made his worship order
 them out of the lord’s sight just before, now
 dressed out like reputable house-keepers,
 who gravely signed with my mistress, with-
 out ever asking what; and, upon her re-
 turning a negative shrug, to a wink from
 the clerk, went out, without a word.

The business was now over, and my late
 mistress dismissed to follow her occupation,
 and make up, by double diligence, for the
 misfortunes of that morning, only with an
 assurance to the clerk, that she would re-
 member his kindness, and be *punctual* for
 the future.

I was now entered into a service, where I
 had an opportunity of seeing into the whole
 mystery of justice : but you must not ex-
 pect that I should reveal all the secrets of so

vene-

venerable a trade; though I may give a few general hints for your information, in so abstruse and intricate a science.

The affair of my late mistress was the last of that morning. My worshipful master putting *me* into his purse, and going directly to dinner, which had *waited* for him some time. But though his fare was good, his care for the public would not permit him to make long meals, or debauch away his time. After a short refreshment of only two hours, he returned to his office, where he reassumed his labours, in all the various branches of his extensive employment.—

The first thing he looked into, was the *informations*, which the affair of my mistress had interrupted in the morning, as I told you before; when calling his people, one after another, before him, he went through them regularly, in this manner: ‘*John Gibbet,*
‘ you here inform me that you have found
‘ out the person who took the gentleman’s
‘ hat, in the quarel in *Gbelsea* fields, last
‘ Sunday evening, which you think to
‘ make a robbery of: Let me hear the cir-
‘ cumstances of that affair, for you are so
‘ keen a blood-hound, when you get upon
‘ any scent, that you are for making every
‘ thing robbery, be the case what it will.’

‘ Please

‘ Please your worship (replied *Gibbet*,
 ‘ turning the *quid* in his cheek, and squirt-
 ‘ ing out the juice) I do all things for the
 ‘ best, and that you know; and that I have
 ‘ brought many things to bear, which no-
 ‘ body else would undertake, as witness
 ‘ that affair on *Shuter’s-bill*, that got you
 ‘ so much credit, and money too.’—‘ *Why*
 ‘ *that is true, JOHN; but then you should*
 ‘ *remember also the cursed scrape you brought*
 ‘ *me into about the young fellow who wrote the*
 ‘ *threatening letters to the farmer, about bur-*
 ‘ *ning his barns; you undertook to prove that*
 ‘ *too: but you know how you left me in the*
 ‘ *lurch, after I had gone such lengths, as had*
 ‘ *like to have ruined me. Plain swearing will*
 ‘ *not always do, though never so home; you*
 ‘ *should remember that: you should attend to*
 ‘ *circumstances also: but as to this affair, let*
 ‘ *me hear what you can make of it?’*

‘ Your worship must know, that I, and
 ‘ two or three more of our people, having
 ‘ nothing to do, *shammed* a quarrel, in
 ‘ which a gentleman, who was coming by,
 ‘ lost his hat. It was a large hat, with a
 ‘ very broad gold lace, such as your fo-
 ‘ reigners wear; it was I that shoved off
 ‘ the hat, and seeing a shabby idle-looking
 ‘ young fellow standing by, without one,
 ‘ I took it up, and asking him if it was his,
 ‘ reached

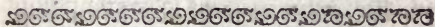
‘ reached it to him, and saw him make off
‘ with it directly. Now if this is not a
‘ plain robbery, I do not know what is! a
‘ fellow runs away with a gentleman’s hat,
‘ who advertises it, with a reward for ta-
‘ king the thief, whom he will prosecute!
‘ now I have found out the fellow’s haunts,
‘ for indeed I dogged him, and will have
‘ himself whenever you please, and can
‘ clench the prosecution, by swearing that
‘ I saw him carry off the hat; and you
‘ know I need say no more, nor take any
‘ notice who gave it to him.’

‘ *Why, JOHN, there may be something*
‘ *in this affair I like it very well, JOHN!*
‘ *and so clerk, you may enter him on the list,*
‘ *for next sessions. This affair has a good look;*
‘ *nor is there any thing unjust in it; for though*
‘ *you gave him the hat; as he knew it was not*
‘ *his own, and yet carried it off, he is guilty*
‘ *of the theft, and that is the same as robbery,*
‘ *injustice, though it may not in law; and jus-*
‘ *tice is the thing to go by, with a safe con-*
‘ *science. And so you may go, John, I will*
‘ *let you know when it will be proper to*
‘ *have him taken up, only have an eye to him,*
‘ *for fear any one else should snap him out of*
‘ *our hands.—Who comes next! RICHARD*
‘ *SLY, you say you have found out the knot of*
‘ *young fellows that have begun to infest the*
‘ *Vol. I. K streets*

‘ *streets for some nights past.*’—‘ Aye, please
 ‘ your worship (says *Sly*, shrugging up his
 ‘ shoulders, and grinning) I have found them
 ‘ out, to be sure; and well I might! for
 ‘ it was I first set them on the *lay.*’—‘ *How,*
 ‘ RICHARD! *take care of what you say!*’—
 ‘ Oh, your worship, never fear *Dick Sly*
 ‘ for a slippery trick! I know what I say
 ‘ very well: I have known for some time
 ‘ that these youths have been playing a
 ‘ small game, cribbing from the *till*, and
 ‘ building *scences*, and such like tricks, that
 ‘ there was no taking hold of; I therefore
 ‘ thought it would be right to bring them to
 ‘ justice, at any rate, and so laid the plan of
 ‘ this gang, and entered them into the busi-
 ‘ ness myself, and now, whenever you have
 ‘ a mind to *nub* them, you need only take me
 ‘ up, and I can *peach* them all, which will
 ‘ be no bad affair, there are so many of them.
 —‘ *Why that is true, RICHARD; but they*
 ‘ *have done nothing yet that deserves so severe*
 ‘ *a remedy as the gallows! therefore let them*
 ‘ *alone; perhaps they may mend: or if they do*
 ‘ *not, it will be time enough to take them up*
 ‘ *when they deserve it more than now. To be*
 ‘ *sure, your peaching them, who first drew*
 ‘ *them in, is not so very just; but then the*
 ‘ *law will support you in it, and while a man*
 ‘ *has the law of his side, he may laugh at the*
 ‘ gal-

‘gallows. And so RICHARD, have a good
 ‘look out till these youths are ripe for TY-
 ‘BURN, and then your harvest will come.’

It would be endless to go through this whole business particularly. Be it sufficient to say, that there was no breach of the laws, which some of his people did not give him an information of, and almost all, as accomplices, while his whole care was to consider, which could turn most to his advantage, in the conviction, and to settle the evidence against them, so as it might be sure not to miscarry.



C H A P. IX.

An highway-man, improperly taken, saves his life, by losing his reason. Judicial sagacity, and eloquence triumphant over common-sense, and matter of fact. This mystery explained.

WHILE he was in the midst of this business, he was surprized with the news of an highway-man, that moment brought in by a gentleman who had taken him, in the very attempt of robbing him on *Turnham-Green*. This threw the whole house into an uproar,—‘*An highwayman*

‘ taken, and by the very party! (exclaimed
 ‘ the justice in an agony of rage and vexa-
 ‘ tion) *This is most unfortunate; there is 40l.*
 ‘ *dead loss, beside the shame of it: how shall*
 ‘ *I support my consequence, if other people can*
 ‘ *serve the publick without my assistance?’*

‘ I wonder who it can be (said the clerk)
 ‘ I suppose the man on the white mare, or
 ‘ the mask, from *Putney-Common!* but
 ‘ whoever it is, something must be done!
 ‘ *He must be saved this time, to save our*
 ‘ *credit, and we may have him the next,*
 ‘ *ourselves! Here they come: do you keep*
 ‘ *the gentleman in discourse, while I speak*
 ‘ *to the prisoner, and see how he can come*
 ‘ *down. I shall readily give you your*
 ‘ *cue.*’

Just then entered the gentleman with his
 prisoner, whom they directly knew to be an
 old offender, who had long baffled their
 pursuit: a circumstance, that heightened
 the vexation of his being taken by another,
 and was not a little favourable to him at this
 time.

His worship received the gentleman most
 politely, and desired him to sit down a mo-
 ment, till he should finish a letter he was
 writing to *the secretary of state*, and then he
 would attend to his business, ordering the
 prisoner

prisoner to be removed into another room for the mean time.

He then sat himself down to write, with great deliberation, and had *just finished*, when his clerk came to deliver him a letter *from the lord mayor*, which he read over attentively, and saying it was very well, he then turned to the gentleman, and asking his pardon for making him wait so long, ordered the prisoner to be brought in.

The highway-man appeared now a quite different person from what he did, when he was in the room a few minutes before; his looks, which were then clouded with the gloom of listless dejection and despair, being inflamed into the fiercest agitations of phrenzy.

The gentleman shewed his surprize at this change, as did his worship his uneasiness for his own safety, from the fury of so outrageous a madman. As soon as he was secured; the justice addressing himself, with the height of judicial solemnity, to the prosecutor, ‘ Pray Sir (said he) will you please to inform me what you have to allege against this unhappy person?’—‘ Sir (replied the gentleman) all I have to say, is, that he stopped me this afternoon, upon *Turnbam-Green*, and presenting a pistol at me, bid me deliver my money, but be-

K 5

ing.

ing well armed, and having more about me than I chose to lose, instead of my purse, I drew a pistol too, and his missing fire, I grappled with, and took him on the spot, and from thence brought him directly here: that is all I have to say, Sir!

‘*And pray, Sir, what did he say when you had taken him?*’—‘Not a word, Sir, nor has he spoke a syllable since; nor answered any one question he has been asked.’—‘*Aye, ’tis so! poor gentleman, it is so!—And pray, Sir, did he make much resistance when you took him?*’—‘The utmost he was able; but being better mounted, and much stronger than him, I soon overpowered him, though not without great danger, for after I had him down, he drew this knife, and very narrowly missed plunging it into my body! You see what a cut he made in my coat and waistcoat!’—‘*Aye, poor man, madness is always desperate: I fear, Sir, you have been too hasty in this affair.*’—‘How, Sir, too hasty, to take a man in the very action of highway robbery? I do not understand you, Sir!’

‘*Sir, I mean that this person is no robber, but an unhappy gentleman of family and fortune, who has been for some time out of his mind: I have been applied to by his relations,*

‘*more*

more than once, to try to have him apprehended, that he might be confined; and now he is secured, they will take proper care of him, that he shall not frighten any body for the future; for I am satisfied, Sir, that was all he meant; and that he would not have taken your money, had you offered it to him: I suppose you searched him, when you had overpowered him, poor man, as you justly termed it! Pray, Sir, did you find any thing upon him, to make you think he was an highway-man? Any watches! jewels! or different purses of money? or more money than you might think it probable a person of his appearance might commonly carry about him?

No really, Sir, I did not find any thing like what you mention! this purse, which seems to have about 30 or 40 guineas in it, (for I have not reckoned them) was the only thing in all his pockets, except the knife which he drew on me; his pistols were openly in his saddle, as gentlemen commonly wear them.

Very well, and does not his present behaviour and whole conduct in this affair convince you, that the unhappy man could have no felonious intent, in his mad attack upon you: for men, mad as he is, have no intention at all; and, without a felonious in-

‘ tent, there can be no robbery : but, I pre-
 ‘ sume, you may understand something of the
 ‘ law yourself, Sir ?’

‘ No indeed, Sir, I cannot say I know
 ‘ any more law, than just not to wrong any
 ‘ person, nor let them wrong me, if I can
 ‘ help it, as far as common sense will di-
 ‘ rect me : I thank God, I have spent my
 ‘ days quietly in the country, and never
 ‘ had a dispute with any man in my life.’

‘ Common sense, dear Sir ! common sense is
 ‘ a blind guide in matters of law ! Law and
 ‘ common-sense are quite different things ; but
 ‘ as I was saying, Sir, where there is no felo-
 ‘ nious intent, there can be no felony ; now
 ‘ robbery is punished only because it is felony, for
 ‘ so the indictment must be laid, FELONICE,
 ‘ Sir, FELONICE, or it will not do ! The in-
 ‘ dictment will be quashed without that word ;
 ‘ and who can charge a man with a felonious
 ‘ intent, who is disordered in mind, and can
 ‘ have no intention at all. ’Tis true, the ap-
 ‘ pearance was bad, and sufficiently terrifying,
 ‘ to authorize your apprehending him ; but as
 ‘ you suffered neither loss, nor hurt, I cannot
 ‘ suppose, that a gentleman of your humane ap-
 ‘ pearance would desire to add to the misery of
 ‘ his present unhappy condition, that of impri-
 ‘ sonment till the next sessions, when he must
 ‘ be acquitted of course, as that would cer-
 ‘ tainly

‘ tainly make his madness for ever incurable ;
‘ —Whatever expence you have been at in
‘ bringing him here, I will take upon me to
‘ reimburse you, out of the money in his purse,
‘ beside what gratification you please to require,
‘ for your own time and trouble! This, Sir, is
‘ what I would recommend to you, as a Christian
‘ and a gentleman, as you appear to be: but if
‘ you are of another opinion, you must only swear
‘ to your information, and enter into a recog-
‘ nizance of prosecution, while I sign his MIT-
‘ TIMUS, and send word to his friends, who
‘ are people of condition.’

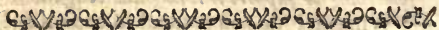
‘ Indeed, Sir, you judge very rightly of
‘ me; I would not aggravate the distress
‘ of any human being! If you know the
‘ unhappy man, and that he is under so
‘ severe an affliction, as the loss of reason,
‘ I have nothing farther to say, than that I
‘ am sorry for his misfortune, and would
‘ not for the world be the cause of heighten-
‘ ing it, as I had no motive for apprehend-
‘ ing him, but the duty which I and every
‘ member owe the publick. I thank hea-
‘ ven for my own escape from him, and do
‘ not desire to make any advantage of it.
‘ As to the people who assisted me in bring-
‘ ing him hither, they are still unpaid, and
‘ you know best how to deal with them, so

‘ I leave the whole affair to you, and am
Your humble servant.’

I have not interrupted this account, with any notice of the behaviour of the criminal, as it consisted only of the most outrageous imitation of madness, with imprecations and blasphemies too horrid for repetition.

As soon as the gentleman was gone, and the room cleared of all, but the justice, his clerk, and the *madman*, who was left bound to keep up the farce, his worship thus addressed him, ‘ So sir, you thought to reign for ever; but you see what your feats have come to! I suppose you are surprized at the pains I have taken to bring you through this affair!’ — ‘ Not at all sir, (replied the criminal) the bank note for 200 L. which I had concealed in the sleeve of my coat, and gave your clerk’ — ‘ How, sir, (said the justice in a rage) do you pretend to say it was upon any such account? But you judge of others by yourself. However, I shall not stand to argue the matter with you now; you have escaped for this time, and may be glad of it! but take care for the future! your luck may not always be so good’ — ‘ Will your worship please to order your people to return me my horse and arms? and I hope you will give me my purse; for life without
‘ some-

‘ something to support it is no great obligation.’
—‘ What fir! do you pretend to capitulate!
‘ Your horse you shall have, not that you
‘ have any right to expect him, but be-
‘ cause it would not be proper to keep him,
‘ after the representation that imposed upon
‘ the fool who took you; and here are half
‘ a score guineas to carry you to some place
‘ where you are not known, and to main-
‘ tain you till you can get into some honest
‘ way of earning your bread. The rest is
‘ little enough to give the people instead
‘ of your horse, and to stop their mouths.
‘ You may stay here till the crowd is dis-
‘ persed, when you may go where you
‘ please.’—As there was no remedy, the
criminal was forced to submit; nor indeed
did he seem much dissatisfied at the heavi-
ness of his composition.



C H A P. X.

An instance of his worship's exemplary justice on a shop-lifter. The unfashionable compassion and generosity of a sailor. A dispute about superiority of skill between his worship and his clerk, opens new mysteries in the profession.

IT was now pretty late, and my master was just retiring to supper, pleased with having made so good a day, when he was stopped by more business. A woman who kept a chandler's shop, in the next street, had dragged before him one of her poor neighbours, whom she had caught in the very fact of stealing a pound of cheese off her counter, as she was reaching her a two-penny loaf from the shelf: a crime that was heightened by ingratitude too, as she was giving her the loaf on trust; the thief having owned to her, that she had not a farthing in the world to pay for it, nor a morsel to give her three small children, who had been fasting the whole day.

Enraged at the heinousness of the crime, and at being kept from supper, while the chickens

chickens and asparagus were cooling on the table, his worship, knitting his brows, and putting on all the magistrate, asked the trembling wretch, with a voice that pierced her soul,—‘What she had to say for herself, and whether she was guilty of the crime laid to her charge, or not.’—

The poor creature, almost dead with wretchedness, want, and fear, threw herself at his feet, and pouring out a flood of tears, that for some moments choaked her utterance, ‘O mercy! mercy! (said she) for the love of the sweet *Jesus*, have mercy on a poor wretch, whom want alone compelled to this first offence, to save the lives of three poor infants, who are this moment perishing with hunger. Oh, send, and prove the truth of what I say; send and learn their misery, and it will move you to relieve them, and then I care not what becomes of me.’—
Very fine truly! if we admit such excuses for shop-lifting, there will be enough ready to plead them. Here, make her mittimus; she confesses the fact; as for her brats, bastards too, I suppose, let them be sent to the work-house’——‘Oh the poor creatures! they are not bastards; and they have no parish to be sent to. My husband is a sailor, who was pressed on board a man of war

‘ war six years ago, and has been in the
 ‘ *West-Indies* ever since, till this summer,
 ‘ when the ship was ordered home to be
 ‘ laid up.. Poor soul! he thought he should
 ‘ be paid off, and so wrote me word to
 ‘ *Corke*, to come to him, for he meant to
 ‘ go and settle in *Scotland*, his own country;
 ‘ but the moment he came to *Portsmouth*,
 ‘ he was *turned over* into another ship, with-
 ‘ out getting a shilling of his six years
 ‘ wages or prize-money, and sent away di-
 ‘ rectly to *America*; so that, after spending
 ‘ every penny I had in the world, to come
 ‘ to him from *Ireland*, as he desired, I am
 ‘ left here with my poor children, to starve
 ‘ in a strange place; where no-body has any
 ‘ compassion for me, though my husband
 ‘ wrote me word, that he had above 300l.
 ‘ due to him for wages and prize-money;
 ‘ here is his letter! I never go without it!
 ‘ it is all the comfort I have in my distress.’

‘ *Aye, I thought so! I thought you were*
 ‘ *one of those Irish thieves that came to rob us,*
 ‘ *and cut our throats! but I shall take care*
 ‘ *of you! I shall make you wish you had con-*
 ‘ *tinued eating potatoes at home. I wish I*
 ‘ *could provide as well for every one of your*
 ‘ *country! we shall never be well, till we have*
 ‘ *hang’d you all.*—‘ Oh good your worship!
 ‘ I am no thief; I never stole any thing
 ‘ before.

‘ before. And this woman, who has
‘ brought me before you, knows the truth
‘ of every thing I have told your worship;
‘ and that I have always paid her honestly
‘ while I had a penny in the world; for I
‘ have dealt with her ever since I came to
‘ London; but hunger, and the cries of
‘ three starving children, forced me to this!
‘ Oh my children, my children!’ — ‘Peace,
‘ woman! all you can say signifies nothing;
‘ you were taken in the fact, and to Newgate
‘ you shall go directly. And as for your brats,
‘ it is better for them to die of hunger now,
‘ than to live to be hanged like their mother.’ —

By this time, the *mittimus* was ready, which he signed without the least hesitation or pity, and then hurried away to his supper, having almost fretted his bowels out, to think it was spoiled by waiting so long.

But though the Justice’s compassion could not be moved, by such a *poor* wretch, his clerk was not so inexorable, but yielded to the persuasion of an honest *tar*, who seeing a croud at the door, had given six-pence to go in, and see the *fun*; and for two guineas, which barely paid the fees, ventured to make up the affair, and let her go about her business, though he did not know what might be the consequence, if it should ever come to his worship’s knowledge. — Jack took no notice of what

what he said, but taking the poor creature, who was just sinking under the agitations of fear, joy, and gratitude, by the hand, 'Chear away, sister (said he) chear away; we'll bring up all this lee-way, next trip. Damn my eyes and limbs, if I'll see a brother seaman's family at short allowance, while I have a shilling! come, heave a-head; I'll rig and victual you and your children, against your husband comes, to man you for a voyage home. I'll swing my hammock in the next birth, and you shall cook the kettle, while I stay ashore.'—Saying which words, he led her off in triumph.—This the clerk told his worship, when he come in to supper, giving him one of the guineas, as his share of the composition.

I now thought the business of the day over, and was preparing to take a view of my new master's heart, while he and his clerk were enjoying their success over an hearty bottle. But I was prevented, by an accident, which disturbed for a while, and had like to have entirely broken off this harmony between them, a dispute, like those between all conquerors, arising about the division of the spoil, and the merit in the acquisition of it.

This

' This will do (said his worship, clapping his hands a kimbo, after a full glass) this will do! what between the bawd in the morning, and the highwayman in the afternoon, we have made a noble day of it! But what have you ordered about that fellow? I hope you have taken care that we may have him ourselves next.' Never fear (replied the clerk) I have done for him. I have sent people to *lay* all the roads he can go, from the inn where he ordered his horse; and *plausible Tom* is fixed there, to scrape an acquaintance with him, so that he cannot escape.

' *Aye, let Tom alone to manage him; many a cunning fellow's heart has that Tom crept into, till he has wheedled him to Tyburn! Not a lawyer of them all has a smoother tongue. But did not I improve the hint of the madness well? how quietly the gudgeon swallowed it! If I were to set about it, I believe in my soul, I could have persuaded him out of his own senses, and made him think himself mad, as well as the highwayman. ha! ha! ha! Though you were not quite clear enough in your note; you should have told me all the particulars; I was often at a loss; but upon the whole, I think I did pretty well; pretty well, I think!*'

' Why

‘ Why aye, you did so manage it pretty
 ‘ well, when I had given you the *cue*, and
 ‘ so might any one have done. But how
 ‘ would you have contrived to bring him
 ‘ off, if I had not made that hit !’—‘ *How!*
 ‘ —*why easily enough!*—‘ *I would have——*
 ‘ *But what have you done with the bank-note ?*
 ‘ *let me see that!*—‘ The note! it is safe
 ‘ enough. But you do not tell me, how
 ‘ you would have managed to have earned
 ‘ it; I think you should do that before you
 ‘ ask for it’——‘ *How I would have earned*
 ‘ *it! why pray, good sir, do you know whom*
 ‘ *you talk to in this manner?*’——‘ Whom
 ‘ I talk to!—I talk to the worshipful justice
 ‘ —— whose betters I have talked to
 ‘ before now; and who would not have
 ‘ asked me that question some years ago,
 ‘ when he applied to me, to instruct him
 ‘ in the business of his office!’—‘ *Insolence!*
 ‘ *instruct me! I’ll make you know sir, that*
 ‘ *I understand my business, without your in-*
 ‘ *struction! I’ll take another clerk to-morrow.*’
 —‘ With all my heart, good master justice!
 ‘ with all my heart; and see who will be
 ‘ the loser by that. If you do not know it
 ‘ yet, you will soon see then, whether the
 ‘ business comes to the justice or his clerk;
 ‘ for I give you notice, that I shall take all
 ‘ *the people* with me; you shall have the
 ‘ credit

' credit of making up a new *set* for your-
 ' self, I assure you.'——' *Very fine! very*
 ' *fine treatment this!*'——' Why do you
 ' deserve it then, sir, if you do not like it.
 ' I say very fine treatment too! that you
 ' should take upon you to undervalue
 ' my skill, and assume the credit of it to
 ' yourself; you, whom I first taught, and
 ' still support in your office, in despite of
 ' all your blunders! — As for the bank-
 ' note, here it is, and here it shall be, till
 ' we have settled the account of the last ses-
 ' sions, when you were so clever upon
 ' me, sending me, on a fool's errand, out
 ' of the way, while you took up the re-
 ' ward. Perhaps you thought I did not
 ' see through your design, or that I was
 ' afraid to speak of it, but you were quite
 ' mistaken; I only waited till the remedy
 ' should come into my own hands, and
 ' now it has, be assured I shall make use
 ' of it, whatever you may think, sir! and
 ' farther let me tell you, that if you say
 ' much more, I will think of parting in
 ' earnest, if you do not think proper to
 ' come to a new agreement: for I see no
 ' reason why you should carry off two thirds
 ' of the profit, only because you are *justice*
 ' indeed, though I do all the business! —



C H A P. XI.

The breach happily made up by the arrival of company. The evening concluded in character. His worship goes next morning to hear a charity-sermon, and from thence to eat a charity-feast, where CHRYSAL enters into a new service. Some account of the nature of a charity feast.

MATTERS were now at such an height, that I every minute expected they would have proceeded from words to blows, when a pull at the bell brought them both to themselves in an Instant.

‘Hah! that is true! this is quarter night
 ‘(said the justice) and here the ladies are
 ‘come! Give me your hand: why should
 ‘we fall out about our skill, while the bu-
 ‘siness goes on well: here’s my service to
 ‘you; and let there be no more of it.’—
 ‘With all my heart (replied the clerk)
 ‘but why will you urge me on thus, when
 ‘you know that I cannot bear to have my
 ‘skill called in question?’—

By

By this time the ladies entered, whom I directly saw to be the *commode* matrons, and compliant fair, of his district, who came duly to compound with him, for the breach of those laws he was appointed to support.

The very mention of this scene, sufficiently explains the nature of it, and makes a more particular description unnecessary. All parties behaved properly on the occasion. *They* paid their subsidies, for which he returned them very wholesome advice, to behave with diligence and discretion in their professions; and especially those who lived in his neighbourhood, he cautioned to avoid all riots, and causes of offence, which might bring his connivance and protection into suspicion; then relaxing from the severity of his morals, he gave up the rest of the night, and a good part of the next morning, to mirth and good-fellowship, in the company of a few of his particular favourites, and best customers of this motly set, having dismissed the rest to the pursuit of their occupations.

The business of the day, and pleasures of the night, had so far exhausted his spirits, that nature required a long pause: accordingly, no business coming in to disturb him (for such was his vigilance in his office,
and

and care for the public, that every thing gave way to that) he made a late morning, not waking till he was called to attend a sermon and dinner, which were to be that day for the benefit of a charity, to which he was a constant benefactor; as indeed his publick spirit made him, to all that were already established, and prompted him to strike out many new; in which, as the author of them, he hoped to have the management, while novelty should make it the fashion to support them.

But in this he was always disappointed. For though, in the multitude of his schemes, he sometimes stumbled upon a good one, yet his head was so confused, and his notions so wild and immethodical, that before he could digest his plans into any regularity, some one else took up the hint, and ran away with the credit of the design.

At church he *edified* greatly, by a comfortable *nap*, during the sermon, which finished his refreshment, and sent him with a clear head, and keen stomach, to the feast, where every person seemed to vie, in demonstrating his attachment to the cause of their meeting, by the quantity he eat and drank.

I here changed my service once more, being given by his worship in his subscription,

tion, and so came into the possession of a community in general, which gave me an opportunity of seeing the human heart in a more complicated view, than perhaps any other scene of its actions could afford; as there was hardly a profession, degree, or rank of life, which had not a representative in this meeting, nor a motive of action, however apparently contrary to its design, or contradictory to each other, which did not contribute its influence to the bringing them together.

While I lay in the hands of the treasurer of the charity, unassigned to any particular use, or person, I enjoyed a state of liberty, something like that of living in a commonwealth, having it in my power to enter into the hearts of all the governors (who were now my owners) as I liked, and to make any observations, without restraint to any particular person, time, or place.

Charity is the most amiable, and most exalted of the human virtues, and that which rises to the nearest imitation of the divine. Nor can any thing be a stronger proof of the beneficence of the author of the human nature, than his placing this virtue, which is the perfection of it, within the reach of every individual.

For

For charity is a disposition to think well of, and do well to, every other human being, without partiality, prejudice or respect, to any other motive, than this universal duty; giving of alms being no more than one, and that perhaps the very meanest, effect of it.

But this extensiveness of the nature of charity is the reason of its being generally misconceived, and most erroneously confined to this effect, by minds unable to comprehend its greater excellence; and from this mistake, have proceeded many of the extraordinary instances of this effect of charity, which distinguishes the present age.

This is a most dangerous error; it is too like thinking to bribe heaven with the wages of hell; and yet profanely absurd as such a notion is, daily observation shews the extensive prevalence of it.

As charity is such a refined and exalted virtue, and purely spiritual, it must appear strange to you, how it should enter into the head of man, to make so gross, low, and sensual a passion as eating, the foundation of it! Indeed so unnatural is the thought to pure speculation, unacquainted with the perversions of life, that a charity-feast, in the literal meaning of the phrase, must be taken for a meeting of the poor to eat the

pro-

provisions supplied for them by the rich, instead of the rich meeting to gorge their own appetites.

But a little observation of the present bias of the world, will solve this difficulty. Of all the *natural* appetites and passions, which possess that part of mankind, whose age has enabled them to amass money enough to give away, eating is the most universal. I say natural passions, for fraud, avarice, or ambition, or even lust, at that time of life, are not the passions of nature.

To gratify this, therefore, was the most probable scheme for drawing *them* together: and when that is sufficiently done, the full heart opens easily, and shares its abundance with the empty..

C H A P. XII.

A representation of the company. The history of one of the principal members. The modern method of bribing heaven with the wages of hell.

THEY had feasted, nor did their minds yet require such another banquet, when I became a member of their society; you must not expect a particular account or description of such a scene. A few general hints must satisfy your curiosity, as I have told you on other occasions,

Let your imagination represent to you, a number of people, whose highest pleasure is eating, seated at a large table, covered with all the delicacies, all the rarities of the season, in a plenty that promised satiety to their keenest appetites.—But I must stop! I see the very thought has an effect upon you, that favours too strongly of sensuality, and might, if not checked, put a stop to our conversation, by some human hankering. Let us therefore pass over such a

* Homer.

scene, and turn our observation to the company, as they sat, after the fragments of the feast were removed. And here it will be proper to have recourse to the expedient we made use of before, and holding up the mirror to imagination, view the whole scene as if actually present.

Observe then, that enormous bulk of flesh, that sits at the head of the table, with his waistcoat all unbuttoned, and gasping for breath; the distension of his stomach having left his lungs scarce room to perform the animal functions, and fat almost choaked the passages of vital air.

He is one of the principal supporters of this, and every other publick charity, founded on the modern method of a feast; the natural avarice of his heart outwitting itself in this instance; for as he is sure of satiating his appetites with more and better victuals and wine, at these meetings, than he could have at home, for much more than the price of the ticket, the advantage in that bargain, always tempts him to go; and then the happiness of his heart, in the fulness of his stomach, opens his purse, and he subscribes with a liberality that arises almost to profusion.

But look into his heart, and read the rest of his life: the very money which he

bestows with such an appearance of virtue, on this best of uses (for no error in motive, or manner, must take off the merit of an action, that does good) this very money (I say) has perhaps been acquired, by vices the most opposite to the virtues it is applied to.

The greatest frugality, application, and skill in the mysterious business of a scrivener, have raised this person, from the most abject poverty, to affluence, above the moderation of a rational wish. But so powerful is the force of habit, that though the cause has been long since removed, the effect still remains, and he persists to save and heap up money, by all the mean and iniquitous ways, which want first suggested to him. One instance, and that not singular, in him, will give you a sufficient insight into his character.

A gentleman, whom indiscretion and indolence of temper, had involved in some pecuniary distresses, had the greater misfortune some years ago, to be recommended to this person, to borrow such a sum of money as should extricate him from his immediate difficulties, on a mortgage of his estate.

As his security was good, his business was soon done; but the convenience of his estate, to another which this person had lately

lately purchased in his neighbourhood, and an acquaintance with the unwary easiness of his disposition, made him cast a wishful eye upon it, and form schemes for getting it absolutely into his possession.

At first he strove to tempt his indiscretion, by the offer of more money to supply his pleasures, but finding that would not take, and that the sense of his former extravagances dwelt so strongly on him, as to give his mind a kind of turn to industry, did he know how to apply it, his ready genius struck out a method, that he imagined could not fail of success.

He therefore cultivated an intimacy with the gentleman, in which, upon all occasions, he affected to boast of his own success in life, and to attribute it to his having always a command of money, to take the advantage of any bargain that might offer.

As this turn of conversation seemed to flow only from the fulness of his heart, and to be free from all design, it had the effect he proposed, and raised a desire in his friend to follow a method which had been so successful with him. He therefore, one day, communicated to him a resolution, which he had formed, of selling his estate, and applying the money to business; and de-

fired his friend's assistance to execute his design. After an appearance of surprize, the scrivener testified his pleasure and approbation of his prudence, by the readiness with which he undertook to serve him.

The ease with which the first part of his scheme had succeeded, made him form further hopes, and think of getting the estate he desired, even at a cheaper rate than purchasing it.

After some time spent, as he said, in fruitless enquiries, for a purchaser, he most artfully drew his friend, to desire that he would buy it himself: at first he seemed to hesitate, but then, as it were yielding to the impulse of his friendship, he concluded a bargain for it, on terms evidently advantagious to the feller.

All things being agreed upon, the parties met to conclude the affair, when the writings being read over, and the money lying on the table, while the scrivener told it, the gentleman executed the deeds of conveyance, and receipt, before proper witnesses, who withdrew as soon as they had signed them.

In the mean time, the scrivener continued to tell the money, till a servant entered hastily with a letter, as from a lord, who was one of his best clients, and desired

to see him that moment. The difficulty this threw him into was soon solved, by his friend's compliance to defer his business for a few hours, as the lord's urgency would not admit the least delay. Accordingly, he put up both the deeds and money, in all the apparent confusion of hurry, and went away to his lordship.

Next morning the gentleman called to receive the price of his estate, but his friend was not at home, nor to be spoken with in the afternoon, for his turn was now served, and he neither desired, nor perhaps thought it safe, to keep up any farther acquaintance with him.

As such things might happen to a man in business, the gentleman took no notice of them, but quietly swallowed the same excuses for some days successively. At length his patience began to be exhausted, and his fears alarmed at a behaviour so strange, and contrary to that height of intimacy that had been between them, even were there no business in the case.——

In this perplexity he went one morning, resolved not to quit the house till he should see him; and when a message to that purpose was, after long attendance, complied with, upon a warm expostulation, he received for answer, from his *friend*, that

‘ he had been of late too much engaged in
 ‘ affairs of consequence, to attend compli-
 ‘ ments, and knew not any business he
 ‘ could have with him.’

‘ Not know my business, Sir (replied
 ‘ the gentleman in astonishment) I come,
 ‘ Sir, for my money, and shall hereafter
 ‘ never trouble you more with business, or
 ‘ compliment.’—‘ *Your money, Sir! I do
 ‘ not understand you: pray, Sir, what money
 ‘ do you mean?*’—‘ What money? the pur-
 ‘ chase money of my estate, Sir; which
 ‘ you were to have paid me above a week
 ‘ ago, when I signed the deeds of sale.’—
 ‘ *Poor gentleman; it is so! as I was informed,
 ‘ and always feared. He has lost his reason;
 ‘ and I should not seem much better, to trust
 ‘ myself longer with a man in his condition.*’—
 ‘ Take care, Sir; this is too tender a point
 ‘ to be trifled with: you almost make me
 ‘ mad!’—‘ *Aye; there it is: he is mad, poor
 ‘ man; and is even sensible of it himself!*’—
 ‘ Death, Sir; do not dare to dally with
 ‘ me a moment longer! answer me di-
 ‘ rectly! pay me my money; and do not
 ‘ really provoke me to a madness, that may
 ‘ be fatal to us both.’—‘ *Sir, your madness,
 ‘ or reason, is nothing to me: however, I will
 ‘ answer you directly, that I owe you no money,
 ‘ and none will I pay you. As for the pur-
 ‘ chase-*

‘chafe money of your estate, your parting with
‘which I see has turned your brain, when you
‘come to yourself, you will recollect, that I
‘paid it to you, when you executed the deeds of
‘sale; or if you do not remember it, your own
‘receipt, properly witnessed, will prove it, for
‘me, and I desire no more: and therefore,
‘Sir, let me have no further trouble with you,
‘if you do not chuse to take up your lodgings in
‘MOORFIELDS.’

‘This is too much; just heaven! this
‘is too much: too much for human pa-
‘tience to endure! or wait the law’s delay
‘for remedy! I will avenge myself, assert
‘the cause of justice; and rid the groaning
‘world of such a monster!’ (exclaimed the
unhappy gentleman) now really irritated
into the extremity of that phrenzy, which
the other only wanted to impose upon him,
and drawing his sword, before the wretch
could call for help, or take any method of
defence, he plunged it through his body.

His shrieks soon alarmed his servants,
who rushing in, found him weltering in his
blood, and the madman smiling, in the
absence of frantick extasy over him, and
incapable of attention to any other circum-
stance, though some of them dragged him
before a magistrate, while the rest were bu-
sied in procuring relief for their master.

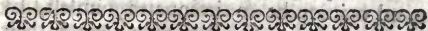
The

The madman was committed to prison, to wait the event of the wound he had given, which heaven, to let the measure of the scrivener's iniquity be full, had directed to a part where it was not mortal.

In a word, he recovered, though not to a sense of justice or humanity, but persisting in his iniquity, which now was sharpened by a spirit of revenge, for what he had endured, the first effort of his health, was to have the unhappy sufferer confined in *Bedlam*, where he still languishes under all the horrors that attend a total loss of reason, without relief, or even compassion from his base undoer; who, this very morning, as he was stepping into his chariot, to come to this *charity-feast*, spurned from him with his foot, and refused the smallest alms to the wretched wife of the ruined madman, who begs in the common streets, and was driven by misery and despair, to throw herself even at his feet, to implore relief.

I see your abhorrence rise at such a monster, but how will wonder even heighten it, when I tell you, that this oppressor has neither child, nor kinsman, to inherit his wealth; for he was himself a foundling, and reared at the publick expence, without the knowledge or tenderness of a parent, to soften his rugged soul, nor would the
selfish-

selfishness of his heart ever permit him to marry, for fear of the expence of a family; but he is this moment meditating on some ostentatious scheme of charity, to the foundation of which, he designs to dedicate the wealth which he has amassed by such villanies.



C H A P. XIII.

Continued: The history of a general almoner.

His method of making charity begin at home.

He converts a noted bawd, but disappoints

his designs, by too great confidence in his own

skill. The character of a clergyman.

MOVE your eye to the left, and view that demure-looking picture of devotion, who sits there in silence, lifting up his eyes to heaven, and sighing in spirit, at the festivity and sensual conversation round him.

Who, that can see no deeper than outward appearances, would not think that man sincere in his professions of religion and virtue? whereas, in truth, he is the most abandoned contemner of both; and deepens the dye of his blackest crimes by the most

hardened hypocrisy, secretly living on the practice of those very vices, of which he professes the greatest abhorrence.

With all that consequence, which he assumes, in the direction of this charity, on the merit of the largeness of his subscription to it, in reality, he is but the dispenser of other people's benefactions, into whose good opinion he so insinuates himself, by his pretended piety, that they intrust their charity to his disposal, who always pays himself for his trouble, by subducting largely, from the sums confided to him. For as real charity vaunteth not itself, they never divulge the secret, compleatly imposed on, by his address, that never lets one half of his contributors know, of the other; by which management, as the sums he gives, are always made public, for example and imitation, each thinks that *he* adds most liberally to his own donation.—But this is not the only method by which he turns his piety to advantage. The access which the reputation of it gains him, into almost every family, opens him an opportunity of carrying on the deepest intrigues, and becoming a pandar, for vices both natural and unnatural, which the interest of the parties concerned, makes them still keep secret.—As for the former, the mystery of

that

that trade has been in part explained already; and the latter is too horrible for explanation. I shall therefore pass over those scenes, and conclude my account of this extraordinary personage, with one instance of his address, in finding out and managing the weak side of superstition and vice.

In the course of his love-negotiations, he had made an acquaintance with a woman who kept a publick *bagnio*, or house of prostitution, which acquaintance mutual interest cemented into an intimacy. In this most infamous trade had this woman amassed considerable wealth, the disposal of which (after her death) took up much of her thoughts, in those moments, when the consequences of her debauched life forced her to think of dying.

As the secrets of their trade had removed every reserve from between them, she often used to consult him on this head; when he always comforted her with dissertations upon religion and virtue, *stripping them of the vain incumbrances of priestcraft, and bringing them back to their genuine principles of benevolence and charity.*

Frequent inculcation of this doctrine had the effect he designed; the matron was pleased with the thought of having all the benefit of religion, without the trouble of
the

the practice, and immediately began to exercise her devotion in donations to publick charities, which as it was not quite so much in character for her to offer in person, while she continued her profession, and she saw no necessity, nor felt inclination to quit that, she always confided to the distribution of her spiritual guide.

Nor did his success stop here; he improved his influence on her superstition, so far, that he prevailed on her to compound with heaven for the vices of her life, by bequeathing the earnings of them to its use, after her death.

For this purpose he himself drew her will, which pious application of her fortune set her conscience at ease; and she continued her usual business to the hour of her death, which happened three years after, with such care and industry, that some instance of negligence, in one of her servant's administering to the pleasure of her guests, gave her such uneasiness, in her last moments, that with her dying breath she lamented the ruin her house must come to, after she should quit the care of it, for the joys of heaven.

You must not think, that his design extended no farther, than to prevail on her to make such a will; he had drawn it himself,

as I have told you, and took care to word it in such a manner, as he thought should give him, under the appearance of her executor and trustee, as she designed him, a real property in her wealth; as it was immediately to come into his hands, on her death, and there was no time appointed for the fulfilling her pious intentions.

But here his sagacity disappointed itself: for neglecting to take proper advice, or afraid of making any person privy to his designs, he had committed such *material* errors in the *form* of the will, as gave room to learned counsel to set it aside, in favour of the heir at law, her nephew, who, from cleaning shoes under a gateway, was enriched with at least a third part of his aunt's fortune, which remained to him, after the costs of the suit that had been carried on for him, *in formâ pauperis*, while her executor had the vexation of disappointment aggravated by a decree *to pay all the costs.* —

This was a severe stroke: but it did not break his spirit, though it obliged him to return to his former occupation of an *abmoner*, which you see he pursues with that attention, which always ensures success.

I see you sink under the pain of finding the best actions debased, by springing from such motives: but be careful to avoid an
error,

error, fatally too prevalent, of concluding from the abuse, against the use of any thing that may, in its end, be conducive to good.

These instances I have given; and I could add many more; not to depreciate the custom of giving to public charities, which is the noblest use of wealth; but to caution you against the dangerous error of thinking, that such giving alone, without reformation of life, and the active practice of the other virtues, can be acceptable in the sight of him to whom it is offered, or efficacious to procure his favour; and to shew the absurd impiety of perishing in vice, with a vain hope of bribing heaven with the wages of hell.

But to relieve your pain, behold that venerable person who sits opposite to him; the serenity of whose looks shews the happiness of his mind. Read his heart, and you will not find one discontent, or sorrow there, but what humanity imprints for the distresses of his fellow-creatures, which his beneficence, his real charity, is for ever finding methods to relieve, not only by pecuniary benefactions, though to these is devoted the far greater part of his ample fortune, but also by his advice, instruction, and good offices, the judicious application and
sincerity

sincerity of which, makes them very rarely fail of success.—He is a real supporter of charity, in its most extensive sense! his example giving a sanction, a seal of virtue, to every thing he appears in, which puts wicked wit out of countenance, and stops the tongue of calumny; and is (even were it alone) sufficient to counterbalance all the instances which could be brought against it. His long life, which has been extended by heaven, as a blessing to mankind, has been a constant illustration of the religion he teaches; not one instance of his actions ever contradicting his profession, as near as human weakness can act up to divine perfection.

Such is this clergyman! such should all clergymen be, to preserve the purity, the dignity of a function, whose rules are drawn from perfection, and calculated to prepare the human for a participation of the divine nature, to accomplish which greatest end, all profession, not enforced by practice, must be ineffectual.

To mention any one instance of his good works, would be doing injustice to the rest, and contradicting the desire of his heart, which, next to doing good, is to conceal what he does, his actions being so far from ostentation, that to heaven only, and the parties

parties themselves, are they revealed, nor to these even is the hand that reaches them the blessing always known.



C H A P. XIV.

The representation concluded with an eminent man-midwife. His motives for taking up that profession, with some unfortunate anecdotes of his practice.

I Shall now present you with a character, the folly of which is a shade to its virtues, and shews them through a medium of ridicule and contempt, more humbling to human vanity, than the most atrocious vice.

Observe that skeleton, that figure of famine, who even after a feast, looks as if he had fasted for a month, and was just ready to perish for want. That is another of the principal promoters, and indeed supporters of publick charity, from the best of motives: his benefactions always flowing from the benevolence of his heart, though too often qualified in the manner, by circumstances that throw both the gift and giver into ridicule.

For

For such is the vehemence of his temper, that not satisfied with providing for the wants of the poor, he will see that the supplies which he bestows, are applied in the manner he directs, which introduces him too familiarly, into the domestick distresses of the unhappy, many of whom would rather perish for want, than make the circumstances of their wants known: nor is his fortune only devoted to those uses, his very personal service is always ready, particularly in some cases, where, unfortunately, a motive of a very different nature from his real one, is too liable to be mistaken for it, by the malignant temper of the times.

There is no situation of human distress, that calls so strongly for compassion and relief, as child-birth. How severe then must the case of those unhappy creatures be, who are left to struggle through such pangs, unassisted, unprovided with any of the comforts, so necessary to support nature in such a conflict.

A sense of this struck his humane heart! He felt the distress, and liberally supplied the relief. Well had he stopped here! But fearing that such relief should be misapplied, or insufficient, he would attend himself, to see that nothing was wanted; and at length,

to make his assistance compleat, learned the *obstetrick* art, and now necessarily has more business in it, as he pays for being employed, by the benefactions he bestows, than any one member of the profession.

Laudable as this care, and the motive of it, are, it would have been much better, had not the sanguineness of his temper hurried him so far! Had he been content to supply their wants, and let others, whose profession it more immediately is, administer relief. For now, what a field does it open for ill-natured ridicule, to see a man of his consequence, descend to offices, in the ordinary acceptation of the world, so far beneath him? How easy is it to say! how easy to be believed, that idle curiosity, or some grosser motive, prompts to such uncommon assiduity?

Nor is the evil of this indiscretion confined to him alone; it reflects a kind of ridicule upon the very virtue it would serve; and makes less sanguine minds refrain from the good, for fear they should also share in the reproach.—For it is not sufficient for a man to have the testimony of his own conscience for the rectitude of his instructions; there is also a debt of appearance due to the publick, to avoid offence, and inculcate virtue by example.

One instance will illustrate this, and shew the inconveniences of his inconsiderate zeal.

A poor woman applied to him for relief, some time before the moment. According to his custom, he supplied her necessities, and took a direction where to call and see her. The woman, either mistaken herself, or tempted by distress to deceive him, told him a wrong time, which made him come too soon; and as he always made her some charitable present whenever he came, she still found some complaints to induce him to repeat his visits.

At length, the frequency of his coming took the notice of the alley in which she lived, who could not conceive any honest business that a gentleman of his fine appearance could have with such a poor woman, in so obscure a place; and as such remarks are always improved, some friend, hinted to the woman's husband, a labouring man, who was out at his work all day, and therefore could not be witness of his disgrace, that his wife had many improper visitors come to her, and must certainly have taken to bad courses, to encourage such doings.

The cuckold in imagination, went directly home, in the greatest rage, at his dis-

dishonour, but the name of the visitor, and an assurance that there came no other, soon pacified him, especially as a ready thought struck him, that he might turn the good man's humanity to an advantage, of a nature very different from what he designed; for the fellow was well supplied with what is called *mother-wit*, which want had sharpened, and freed from every restraint of honesty. He therefore sullenly told his wife, that it might be so as she said, but he would have a better proof than her word for it, and she must let him see her visitor the next time he came, and as she valued her life, assent to every thing which he, her husband, should do or say.

The readiness of her consent encouraged him to open his design to her, which her nuptial obedience, and hopes of gain, made her not only give into, but she also improved the scheme to a certainty of success.

The husband accordingly having prepared some of his associates, placed them properly, the next time the gentleman went to visit his wife, who immediately, upon his coming into the room, began to *cry out*, and implore his assistance.

Though the business came a little inconveniently upon him, as he was full dressed, he would not desert her in her distress, but di-

directly set about giving her the necessary assistance, in the hurry of which, some unlucky stoop burst the string that tied his breeches behind, and down they fell about his heels.

Though this disaster disconcerted him a good deal, the cries of his patient would not give him time to adjust himself, but he was proceeding in his business, with the most anxious assiduity, when in rushed the husband, with his gang, and rewarded his care with a stroke, that felled him, fettered as he was in his breeches, to the ground.

The scene was now changed! the woman, no longer in labour, cried only for revenge, *on the base man who had attempted her virtue*, as the witnesses present attested, they had heard her before, and now caught him in the very fact; which the posture he was in, and above all, the circumstances of his breeches, too strongly confirmed, to the croud whom the noise had drawn together.

Terrified almost to death, at the threats of the enraged husband, who could hardly be held from taking personal vengeance that very moment, and sensible of the consequence, should publick fame catch hold of such a tale, the poor *criminal* threw himself on his knees, and, convinced that all

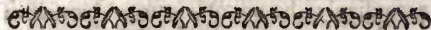
vindication of his innocence would be in vain, besought only a composition for his offence.

This was just what the parties wanted; but still to encrease his terrors, and enhance the price of his escape, such difficulties were raised, as made him glad to yield to any terms they could impose; and accordingly, he not only purged himself of having done any actual dishonour to her husband, for the intention they would not admit him to controvert, but also made satisfaction to his resentment for the attempt, with 100*l.* for which, as he had not such a sum immediately about him, he gave a draught on his banker, and waited in *duresse*, till the arrival of it released him.

This misfortune made him more cautious for some time; but he begins to forget it now, and goes on *with his business* as before. One thing indeed he takes sufficient care about, and that is, that the waste of his breeches is properly secured: for so strong is the impression, which that accident made upon him, that he never walks a dozen steps without pulling them up.

You see most of them begin to nod, I shall therefore draw the curtain here, and leave them to their nap, with this observation, that a few such examples, as the last
but

but one, and many of the kind there are, particularly eminent in this exalted virtue of charity, in both the sexes, are sufficient to take off the prejudice, which the others must excite, and to preserve the proper respect, to the principles they propose to imitation.



CHAP. XV.

Some account of the officers of the charity. Their care of themselves. They fall out about the division of the spoil. A terrible uproar is appeased by a demand of general concern. The concise manner of passing publick accounts. CHRYSAL changes his service.

WHEN I had taken a sufficient view of the governors, I had leisure to turn my observations to the servants of the society, whose behaviour raised an indignation too strong to be expressed by words.

If the governors feasted, they paid for their feasting; but the servants feasted no less, and were paid for it! Nor was this enormity confined to this day: their whole time was one continued scene of it, and

much the greater part of the contributions of the public was prostituted to this abominable abuse: while the poor, for whose relief they were given, too often languished in want of the meanest necessaries, the fund being insufficient for their wants, and the luxury and wages of their servants.

I was diverted from these reflections, by an uproar, in one of the private apartments of the house, where some of the superiour servants, had got together over a bottle of wine, to settle their respective dividends of the subscriptions of the day. I call them servants, for that is the proper appellation of all who serve for hire. As I was yet undisposed of to any particular person, I had it in my power, as I have told you before, to range through the whole territories of the society, to which I belonged, and therefore flew to see, what might be the cause of this riot, in so improper a place, where I was witness to such a scene, as almost transcends belief.

At the upper end of the table sat *the treasurer* (for it would be a reproach to the poorest society, to have fewer officers than the state) with his accounts before him. After a bumper to the success of the charity, ' Mr. steward (said he) our subscriptions
' have been so good this year, that I think
we

‘ we may venture to enlarge our salaries,
 ‘ a little; for last year they were really
 ‘ scarce worth a gentleman’s acceptance.’—

‘ That is true (replied the steward) and
 ‘ I believe we may enlarge the house-allow-
 ‘ ance too, for upon the present establish-
 ‘ ment, it is hardly enough for the days
 ‘ we meet here, and will not afford any
 ‘ thing to carry home, to entertain a friend
 ‘ with, as a gentleman would desire:—it is
 ‘ but swelling some of the *sick articles*,
 ‘ which at present are scarce above the con-
 ‘ sumption. When I was overseer of the
 ‘ parish, we managed things better. We
 ‘ then lived like gentlemen: nay, I remem-
 ‘ ber when I was church-warden, that we
 ‘ spent an whole summer, jaunting about
 ‘ the country, in pursuit of a gentleman,
 ‘ who had a child sworn to him; for fifty
 ‘ shillings, which he had beed ordered to
 ‘ pay, till the bill of our expences came to
 ‘ 15 l. and yet no-body could say against it:
 ‘ So that it is our own fault, if we do not
 ‘ live well.’

‘ Right (joined the apothecary) nor was
 ‘ the appointment for medicines any way
 ‘ sufficient. Had half what the physicians
 ‘ prescribed, been given, there would have
 ‘ been nothing to be got by the contract.’—

‘ How, Mr. apothecary (returned the cook,

‘ with a sneer) nothing to be got! pray, was
 ‘ not all you got clear gain? I am sure,
 ‘ from the benefit received by the patients,
 ‘ there did not appear to have been any
 ‘ thing above brickdust, or powder of rot-
 ‘ ten-post, in any of the stuffs they took!’
 ‘ Pray S— S— Sir (stuttered the apo-
 ‘ thecary, in a rage) wh— wh— what’s that
 ‘ you say? who m— m— made you a
 ‘ judge of medicines?’—‘ Not you, I
 ‘ thank God, Sir (said the cook) as my
 ‘ health shews. But I have good reason for
 ‘ what I say, for though I put double the
 ‘ quantity of meat in my broth, I could
 ‘ not prevent the people’s dying, nor make
 ‘ the few, who recovered, able to go out,
 ‘ in twice the usual time.—S—S— Sir,
 ‘ ’tis all a d— d— damn’d lie. Their d—
 ‘ d— dying was occasioned by the p— p—
 ‘ poorness of the b— b— broth, and the
 ‘ badness of their p— p— p— provisions;
 ‘ and not by the w— w— want of medi-
 ‘ cines; and I’ll p— p— prove it, Sir:
 ‘ and how you sup—p—ported your
 ‘ family on the m— m— meat that should
 ‘ have been d— d— dress’d for the sick!’
 —‘ You’ll prove it, Sir! Take care that
 ‘ you! Gentlemen take notice of what he
 ‘ says! This is striking at my character;
 ‘ and must affect my bread.’

‘ That is true, Mr. cook (said the secretary, who had been an attorney’s clerk) and whatever strikes at a man’s character, so as to affect his bread, is actionable.’—
‘ B——b—— but Sir, he attacked my cha—
‘ cha—cha—character first, and I’ll b—
‘ b—— b—— bring my action too.’——‘ So
‘ you may, Sir (replied the lawyer) the
‘ action will lie on both sides.’——

The dispute had hitherto been kept up, with such heat, that the company could not interpose a word to pacify them, but the mention of the law made it every one’s concern in a moment.——‘ Silence, Gentle-
‘ men (said the treasurer, raising slowly his
‘ august bulk, and striking his hand upon
‘ the table) Silence, I say, and let me hear
‘ no more of this brawling. Mr. cook!
‘ Mr. apothecary! what do you both mean?
‘ to discover the secrets of our society, and
‘ to blow us all up at once? You both heard
‘ me say, that every thing which was wrong
‘ should be adjusted! could you not wait
‘ for that, without falling into this indecent,
‘ this unprofitable wrangle? As for you,
‘ Mr. secretary, the leven of your profes-
‘ sion will break out; it is sufficient to in-
‘ fect the whole mass! Is this your pro-
‘ mise, your oath? To follow your busi-
‘ ness, and do as you are ordered quietly
‘ and

and implicitly, without meddling any farther, or perplexing us with the tricks of your former trade? But it was in vain to expect it. A lawyer can as well live without food, as without fomenting quarrels, and setting his neighbours together by the ears: bring an action indeed! and so betray our mystery, to the impertinent remarks of counsellors, and the scoffs of templers and attorney's clerks. Let me hear one word more of the kind, and this moment I declare off all connection, and leave every man to shift for himself. Our general oath of secrecy, attested under our hands, secures me from information; as it would invalidate the testimony of us all.

With these words, he turned about, to leave the room, when the steward, catching him by the breast, pulled him into his chair, and holding him down, *by main force*, addressed him thus:— Good God, Sir! what do you mean! to take notice of the warmth of madmen, who know not what they say: you, Mr. Treasurer, have moved in an higher sphere of life, and ought to be above such things. *You* were not raised from cleaning the shoes of a pettifogging attorney, in whose drudgery you lost your ears!—from being scullion in

‘ a nobleman’s kitchen, or servant to a
‘ mountebank, to dispence his packets to
‘ the mob; *you* were not raised, I say, from
‘ any of these stations to the rank of a gen-
‘ tleman, by this office, and should be
‘ above taking offence at the low-liv’d be-
‘ haviour of such creatures, who know no
‘ better.’——‘ Nor w— w— w— was I
‘ a full-handed ten-times b— b— b—
‘ bankrupt (interrupted the apothecary, as
‘ he would have done sooner, had rage left
‘ him power of utterance) that b— b—
‘ b— being unable to get credit any l--- l---
‘ l--- longer, came from cheating the p--
‘ p-- p-- public, to cheating the p-- p--
‘ p-- poor! nor a c— c— c— cast-off,
‘ worn-out p— p— p— pimping footman,
‘ whose dirty services w— w— w— were
‘ rewarded with this place.’

This made the madness general, and they were just going to proceed to blows, when the porter entered hastily, and told them the committee were adjourned to their chamber, and had sent for their accounts, to sit upon them directly.

This brought them all to their senses, and made them friends a moment. ‘ Gen-
‘ tlemen (said the treasurer) we have all
‘ been too hot, all to blame; but let there

‘ be

‘ be no more of it! let us agree among
 ‘ ourselves, and we may defy the world.’

Upon this, a general shake of the hand
 put an end to the whole contest, and they
 proceeded to business, as if no such thing
 had ever happened, unanimous in their en-
 deavours to cheat the publick, and fatten
 on the spoils of the poor.

— By that time the committee had sinoaked
 a pipe, and drank their coffee, the accounts
 were laid before them, over which they
 nodded a few moments, and then passed
 them, without exception. The next thing
 was to pay the salaries of the officers, in
 which distribution, it fell to my lot to be
 given to the chaplain.

End of the FIRST VOLUME.

be no more of it, let us agree among ourselves, and we may buy the world. Upon this a general flock of the land put an end to the whole council, and they proceeded to business, as if no such thing had ever happened. Innumerable then endeavoured to cheat the publick, and talked on the spoils of the poor.

By that time the committee had entered a pipe, and drank their coffee, the accounts were laid before them, over which they needed a few moments, and then passed them, without exception. The next thing was to pay the salaries of the officers, in which distribution, it fell to my lot to be given to the chaplain.

End of the First Volume

